REPORT RESUMES

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PILOT STUDY OF YOUNG HOMEMAKERS, 1964. CASE STUDIES OF TWENTY YOUNG HOMEMAKERS IN ONONDAGA COUNTY, NEW YORK STATE.

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TO DETERMINE WHY MANY YOUNG HOMEMAKERS HAVE NOT PARTICIPATED IN ADULT EDUCATION THROUGH THE COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE AND WHETHER AND WHAT KIND OF HOMEMAKING HELP THEY WANT, 20 WOMEN IN ONONDAGA COUNTY, NEW YORK WERE INTERVIEWED, GUIDED BY QUESTIONNAIRES TO WHICH VERBAL ANSWERS WERE GIVEN. OBSERVATIONS WERE MADE OF THE APPEARANCE OF THE HOMEMAKER AND HER HOME, KINDS OF EQUIPMENT, EXAMPLES OF HER SEWING AND HER GENERAL PHILOSOPHY AND ATTITUDES INCLUDING HER VIEWS ABOUT THE AMOUNT OF HER LEISURE TIME. THE INCOME OF 55 PERCENT OF THOSE INTERVIEWED EXCEEDED NATIONAL, STATE, AND COUNTY MEDIANS. THE SUBJECTS HAD MORE EDUCATION THAN THE NATIONAL AVERAGE, HALF WERE IN THE 25-29 AGE GROUP, 70 PERCENT HAD BEEN MARRIED LESS THAN FIVE YEARS, AND HALF OWNED THEIR OWN HOMES. ALL BELONGED TO A CHURCH AND OWNED BOTH A RADIO AND TELEVISION SET. SOURCES OF HOMEMAKING INFORMATION MENTIONED MOST OFTEN WERE BOOKS, MAGAZINES, NEWSPAPERS, FRIENDS, AND RELATIVES. UNFAMILIARITY WITH EXTENSION SERVICE AND PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN WERE THE REASONS GIVEN FOR LACK OF PARTICIPATION. LACK OF TRANSPORTATION OR FREE TIME AND CONFLICTING ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBERSHIP WERE NOT DETERRENTS TO PARTICIPATION. EVERY WOMEN SHOWED INTEREST IN SOME PHASE OF HOME ECONOMICS INCLUDED IN EXTENSION PROGRAMS. THE STUDY INDICATED THAT PUBLICITY ABOUT EXTENSION PROGRAM CONTENT IS NEEDED. (DOCUMENT INCLUDES 20 CASE STUDIES, 46 TABLES, AND THE QUESTIONNAIRE) (AJ)

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PILOT STUDY OF YOUNG HOMEMAKERS: 1964

CASE STUDIES OF TWENTY YOUNG HOMEMAKERS IN ONONDAGA COUNTY NEW YORK STATE

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION IN NEW YORK STATE

AC002144

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Pilot Study of Young Homemakers: 1964

Introduction

Extension personnel has insufficient knowledge about the needs of young homemakers and their interests and attitudes. An evaluation of these needs, interests, and attitudes (once they are known) could shed light on the part that Home Economics Extension might play in helping to meet them.

The two-fold purpose of this study was to try to find out:

1. Why many young homemakers have not availed themselves of adult education through the Cooperative Extension Service.
2. Whether young homemakers feel the need for help in their job of homemaking, and if so, what kind of help.

It was also anticipated that the study might provide direction and guidance for a more intensive study.

Generally accepted the assumptions are that many young homemakers do not attend Extension's structured meetings because of the following:

1. Unawareness of the Extension Organization and its program
2. Lack of interest in the subject matter offered
3. Lack of provision for the care of small children
4. No means of transportation
5. Employment outside of the home
6. Membership in many other organizations
7. Current offerings in subject matter may not meet the problems and concerns of today's young homemakers

Many assumptions have also been made as to the way in which interested young homemakers would like to receive information about various phases of homemaking. Many of these assumptions were based on those listed above. It was supposed that mass media methods were preferred to meetings. Some support for this supposition is supplied by studies of television and radio audiences and the responses to newspaper articles and regular newsletters. It was anticipated that the case studies included in this pilot study, might give guidance on how best to reach the interested young homemaker. The findings on pages 3-5 present evidence that refutes some and concurs with other of these assumptions.

Methodology

The data were obtained through personal interviews with 20 young homemakers. The interviews were guided by a questionnaire to which verbal answers were given. Although the questionnaire was structured to provide specific answers, considerable time was spent in probing and discussing the homemakers' particular situations to give meaning to the structured answers. Observations were also made of the interior and exterior of the houses, some of the furnishings, and the family members who were at home. Tangible evidences included the appearance of the homemaker, appearance of the home, kinds of equipment; and examples of the homemakers' sewing. Intangible evidences about the homemaker included her general philosophy and attitudes - whether she was happy or unhappy, contented or discontented, decisive or indecisive; whether she was capable and skillful in homemaking tasks; what she liked to do; and her views about the amount of her leisure time.

The sampling plan was as follows:

1. The home demonstration agents in Onondaga County in New York State provided the names of 25 former home demonstration agents and/or 4-H Club agents now residing in that county.
2. The 25 former agents provided 17 names of young homemakers who fitted as nearly as possible the following criteria:
    a. Non-Extension member
    b. Resident of Onondaga County
    c. Between ages of 18 and 35 years
    d. In middle income group (National, State and County median income $5,000 to $5,999)
3. Personal interviews were made with 16 of these young homemakers and with four, whose names were provided by the interviewees, making a total of 20 persons interviewed.
4. Interviews were done in May and June, 1964.

The questionnaire was pretested with three young homemakers similar to those finally interviewed. During the pretest, the following items were determined:

1. Length of time required for interview
2. Comprehension of questions
3. Logical sequence of questions
4. Need for space for additional notes

Appointments were made for the interviews at the convenience of the young homemakers. The interviews were conducted using the questionnaire that appears in Appendix B.

Summary of Findings[1]

The individual case studies should be perused for a more intensive study of the reasons for my statements made in this summary. The individual case studies afford an opportunity for more insight as to the needs, interests, and attitudes of the young homemakers than can any summary of such a small number of cases.

The sampling method used resulted in some deviation from the criteria set. The income of 55 per cent of subjects exceeded the income class in which national, state, and county medians for total population fell (Table 5). The subjects proved to have had more education, etc. than the national average (Table 8). The age criteria probably affected the educational level.

Some results relating to the characteristics of the subjects of special interest were:

1. Fifty per cent were in the age bracket of 25 to 29 years.
2. None of the subjects were widowed, divorced, or separated.
3. Seventy per cent had been married less than 5 years.
4. Only one of the 20 homemakers interviewed lived on a farm; 55 per cent lived in the city of Syracuse, 25 per cent in or near villages, and 15 per cent near the city.
5. Fifty per cent owned their own homes.
6. In the group of 20 homemakers there were 34 children, 25 of pre-school age and 9 of school age.
7. All of the subjects had at least a high school education; 25 per cent were college graduates and 20 per cent had some post college work.
8. Ten per cent of the homemakers worked outside of the home full time and 15 per cent part time; 15 per cent cared in their homes for other children as a means of earning money.
9. All of the homemakers belonged to a church, 25 per cent listing it as the only organization to which they belonged. Sixty-five per cent belonged to 3 or more organizations.
10. Ten per cent said they had no free time during the day, 40 per cent had 1 to 2 free hours and 30 per cent had 3 to 4 free hours.
11. All of the subjects owned both a radio and a television set.
12. The median number of years that subjects had lived in any one house was 1.4, and the mean 1.5 years.

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[1] See Appendix A for tables referred to in the text.

13. All of the subjects owned an electric mixer, and 90 per cent owned a vacuum cleaner and a steam iron, while only 50 per cent owned an electric sewing machine.

The reasons why many young homemakers have not availed themselves of adult education through the Cooperative Extension Service may be summarized as follows.

1. Unfamiliarity with the Extension Service (Table 43). Eighty per cent checked that they had heard of the Service but when asked, "What does it do?", they gave 18 different answers, most of them very vague, incomplete, or actually erroneous (Table 44). Several respondents thought the Extension Service and the Home Bureau were identical. No homemaker mentioned the Extension Service by name as a present source of information on homemaking although a few had used Extension bulletins (Table 41).

2. Pre-school children. The number of pre-school children posed the problem of their care during the homemaker's absence to attend any event away from home (Table 2).

Contrary to common assumptions, there did not seem to be a lack of interest in the subject matter offered by the Extension Service (Table 17). Every case study gave evidence of interest in some phase of home economics subject matter that is included in Extension Service programs. Many homemakers said "they would go out of their way" to learn this information (Table 18).

Transportation was not a great problem as the majority of families owned cars which were often available to the homemakers (Table 12). Fifty per cent of the subjects said a car was always available to them in the daytime and 60 per cent said it was always available to them in the evening.

The number of cases of employment of the homemaker outside of the home was small (Table 7). Membership in other organizations was smaller than had been anticipated; 40 per cent had 1 to 2 hours of free time daily and 30 per cent had 3 to 4 free hours (Table 15).

Answers to the question of whether young homemakers feel the need of help in their job of homemaking, and if so, what kind of help included:

1. The need for 14 different kinds of homemaking information was expressed (Table 17). The need for sewing information was mentioned most often. Interior decoration, gardening, food and cooking, and child care were mentioned frequently. Four homemakers said they did not need any homemaking information.

2. The needs mentioned did not reflect a complete picture of the real needs. This is evident from the case studies and also from the homemakers' replies to a question concerning their approach to the solution of certain difficulties (Table 33). Many of their problems were in the management area. For example, they spoke of disliking the monotony or routine of homemaking, having no place to keep unfinished sewing available, and specific routine jobs - often ironing or cleaning. These they did not recognize as needs in the field of management.

Current subject matter offerings of the Extension Service seem to be geared to meet the problems and concerns expressed by the subjects (Table 17). Perhaps there is need, however for a critical re-examination of the information available on these problems and concerns in light of the needs of this group. There may be an increasing need, also, for publicity about the content of the program offerings so that more young homemakers become aware of the possibilities for help.

The sources of homemaking information mentioned most often included books, magazines, newspapers, friends, and relatives (Table 41). Some homemakers were in the habit of consulting city stores by telephone for information on furnishings and clothing. Some felt no need of seeking information on textiles and clothing, management and finance, housing and decoration, and gardening.

A grouping of the case studies for consideration of the particular homemaker as a potential for the services that Extension has to offer might be as follows:

1. Consider Seriously	Reason
a. Case Studies No. 4, 5, 7, 9, 11, 15, 17	These homemakers indicated interest in a variety of subjects.
b. Case Studies No. 2, 10, 14, 18, 20	These homemakers seemed to have needs that the Extension Service could meet.
2. Consider Slightly	Reason
Case Studies No. 1, 3, 6, 8, 12, 16, 19	These homemakers were extremely busy, but were a potential for information through mass media.
3. Not Concerned With	Reason
Case Study No. 13	This homemaker seemed to be self-sufficient and had neither time nor interest.

Case Study No. 1 SHE WANTED TIME TO THINK

Family Composition

This 29-year old young homemaker had three children, two were pre-school, one had started to school. She also took care of another year-old child three days a week. This was a means of earning money at home.

Housing

The home was an average home, but the homemaker had much equipment which made her work easier. The home showed evidence of good care and cleanliness with planned play space for the children. Her husband was a salesman and they owned their home. Much of the work on the improvement of the home had been done by the family. Their income was just barely over $6,000.

Education

The homemaker had a college education

The couple had been married seven years and had two cars so that one was always available to the homemaker

Organizations

As to organizations, it is of interest that church and church organizations were in the foreground. The homemaker belonged to the Home Bureau and Farm Bureau and uppermost in her mind was the Working Craft Club which met weekly. They really met weekly September to Christmas, so that they could make things for Christmas. This included refinishing bowls, knitting and making cookies.

Needs and Interests

It was of interest that while she expressed a need for this homemaking information - craft, caning chairs, sewing helps, making draperies, household hints -- she said she would go out of her way to learn refinishing furniture She apparently liked to sew but only wished she had a place where she could leave it out and didn't have to put it away because that took so much time. I have heard many homemakers mention the fact that they needed a space to leave out things so that they could work when they had time.

She liked to cook very much and mentioned that usually she made pies "from scratch" and cookies from the beginning; however, she did use cake mixes.

Special Problems

In regard to her shopping habits, there were several things of interest. She mentioned especially that she usually watched sales for clothing for the children; she also did some mail-order buying; she mentioned that they liked to shop as a family and that the husband and she, and perhaps the older child, went along. Her husband even bought her some clothes and might bring home a new dress now and then She mentioned that she bought camp clothes as they have a camp.

(More)

Attitudes

This young homemaker gave the appearance of being bright, capable, and happy in her role. She seemed to be a thinking person. I had the feeling that when she mentioned that she would like to have more time just to think, that she wanted to plan. She said she really disliked nothing about homemaking except the routine. She also said that she thought young homemakers differed from their mothers. She used these words, "that they were less obsessed with the house". For herself, she would like to have everything clean and neat, but was not fanatic about it. She thought the young homemaker of today was more relaxed, more independent, and didn't seem to have as much discipline difficulty with the children. She said, when she had some small difficulty, "I don't worry about the children, this is just a phase that they are going through."

Extension Service

This young homemaker did not know what the Extension Service was. As mentioned earlier, she was a Home Bureau and a Farm Bureau member, but was not aware of their former connection with the Extension Service.

Summary

On the whole, I believe this homemaker was quite self-sufficient. She did specify that she would be interested in, perhaps, a short-course, but seemed to prefer the concentrated kind of subject matter rather than meetings on subjects that she had not chosen herself. Magazines, leaflets, and bulletins were the best way for her, she said, to receive information. I believe she would welcome information on child care, sewing and food and nutrition. Since she planned to buy carpeting soon, perhaps, this phase of home decoration would also interest her.

Case Study No. 2 MOTHER OF 4 HAD NO NEED FOR HOMEMAKING INFORMATION

Family Composition

This young homemaker was the wife of a dairy farmer. She was 29 years old. They had four children - two of school age and two pre-school.

Housing

They lived in a large house -- the homemaker called it a 16-room house. They had been married ten years and owned their home. Their income was over $6,000.

Organizations

This young homemaker mentioned church and Home and Farm Bureau and Grange as being of chief interest and stated that she was a member of these. She also mentioned being a member of the local Dairymen's League and the Auxilary of the Fire Department. In these last two, she had an office.

Wants and Needs

Many of her wants seemed to be ones that would make homemaking easier. For example, she wished she had a dishwasher and a mangle and one knows that with this large house, and the size of her family, there would be plenty of work. The house had a "lived in" look, but was quite neat and clean

Education

The homemaker had a high school education. She seemed to be rather reticent about a good many things, but a very pleasant person.

Interests

She said she did not feel that she needed homemaking information. However, on the other hand, she would go out of her way to learn more about chair caning because some lessons had been passed on to her through an Extension leader, and she had enjoyed having them. She went on to say that she liked to cane chairs in her free time as well as rest out-of-doors when the weather was pleasant, and then some times to watch television.

Attitudes

I was impressed with the fact that this young homemaker seemed to hold especially important, family life and thought one of the happiest events since her marriage was the purchase of their farm. Her wants for her children were few. She hoped the boys would finish high school and perhaps go to college. For the girls, she thought it more important that they be happily married. She did say, however, that other wants for the children would include what they themselves wanted to do. She did mention that she hoped the boys would continue farming

Another point which she made which I thought gave a little bit of insight, was when asked if she could live any where she chose, where would it be, she said, "Here".

Extension Service

She relied mainly on mass media for information. She did express interest in some small meetings and seemed to know vaguely the purpose and activities of the Extension Service

(More)

Apparently what was done in the household for the family, the homemaker had to do without much help from her husband I gathered that he spent his time doing the farm work and the dairy work, but was rather helpless about the house She mentioned that when she had been ill recently, the dishes piled up until almost all the dishes in the house had been used. The husband permitted this rather than wash them.

This homemaker's rating of herself on the rating scale was average except for creativity in which she rated herself below the average.

Summary

In summary, I might say that this homemaker felt that she was quite adequate to take care of her home and family Any outside help that she might want would be along the line of hobbies.

The large family and the farm interest perhaps gave evidence of a need for Extension information through mass media.

Case Study No. 3

SHE HAD A CONTRIBUTION IN THE FIELD OF CHILD STUDY

Family Composition

This young homemaker lived in a city. She was 28 years old. She had two small children of school age and cared for a child for pay. She went to get this child and brought him to her home daily and looked after him during the afternoon. She mentioned that he came from a broken home and the mother was employed outside the home.

This young homemaker's husband was an accountant. Their income was in the median bracket of $5,000 to $5,999. The couple had been married seven years, and had made several moves within the city during this time. The homemaker had equipment to work with, especially electrical equipment of many kinds, which I thought was quite unusual for the short length of time the couple have been married.

Organizations

Her organizational interests seemed to be the church and Sorority, a school mother's club in lieu of PTA, and the greatest interest of all, AAUW. Apparently, the AAUW had small study groups for which various members prepared lessons and they met quite often She was also an officer of this group.

Interests

Education

One thing of rather special interest was the fact that when we were discussing the types of homemaking information she would go out of her way to learn, she mentioned child study, and then went on to say that she felt she had a real contribution to make along this line as she had majored in elementary education. She had a college education. She mentioned that she had about four hours, on the average, daily free time and liked to spend her time reading and working on AAUW projects.

Attitudes

This young homemaker was another one who said when asked the question, "If you could live anywhere you chose, where would it be?" answered, "Here." She was quick to say, "My husband might not answer that way, but I would " She thought that her husband would ultimately like to build a house of their own, although they owned this one. She had great admiration for her husband and his abilities. Some of the things he could do she laughed about and acted as if she should be able to do these, but nevertheless, he had done some upholstering and had even made a dress for her, she said. As mentioned before, she felt that her talent lay in child care and this was her first love.

I was interested that in talking about where she went for information, she mentioned so many times that she consulted the stores by telephone about her problems. This was especially true of things that related to housing and decoration and to gardening. Often times the stores, she thought had very good information I have a feeling this came from living in a city where stores had a large well-informed staff She couldn't get downtown easily and resorted to the telephone

(More)

Extension Service

She seemed to know a little more about the Extension Service than some of the young homemakers because her sister had been a Home Demonstration Agent. The young homemaker mentioned being interested in many ways of getting information and included among them a regular letter of the Extension Service.

Summary

In summary, I thought this young homemaker had many ideas. She was quick to say that she lacked knowledge about certain facets of housekeeping, but that she did have thoughts on a good many items such as home decoration that she enjoyed She told of the types of things she would include in redecorating. Another example, was her statement that she had a very strong feeling that many of the things that are printed, did not give her the kind of help she wanted. She gave the example of menus for the week printed in the newspaper or in magazines. She wondered how they could have such menus on a limited budget because she said that she never saw menus showing leftovers used in another meal I gathered that she had definite ideas of how she would save money in meal planning. This young homemaker might make a contribution to Extension in the subject of Child Development and Family Relations if there were some way she could work on it at home.

Case Study No. 4 HER HOUSE WAS "SPIC AND SPAN"

Family Composition

This young homemaker lived in a village in Onondaga County. She was 25 years old. She had one child, 20-months old, and was expecting another child in November. Her husband worked for the Village Water Department and they were on a rather limited income, between $3,500 and $4,999.

Housing

They had bought a big old house on which they had done much of the improvement themselves; they had lived in it for 2 1/2 years. They had been married five years, and again, like so many of the young homemakers, they had quite a good deal of electrical equipment to make housekeeping easier. This home was unusually "spic and span" The homemaker was justifiably proud of some built-in book shelves her husband had made.

Needs

This homemaker's strong point was sewing. Besides doing much of her own, or practically all for herself and for the child, she belonged to a sewing club that met once a week She mentioned sewing as one of the things she would go out of her way to learn and she also mentioned interior decorating as a subject in which she felt she needed some help and would go out of her way to learn.

Education

She had a high school education

The equipment that she seemed to want most was a real kitchen. They had been using a make-shift until they could get their kitchen re-made.

Interests

This homemaker seemed to be very self-sufficient and she enjoyed all of the things about homemaking. She said one reason was because her time was her own and she could plan as she chose. She spent her free time sewing and reading, viewing television, and most of all, walking in the neighborhood with a neighbor and the neighbor's children.

During the early part of their married life, before the couple moved to this village, they had spent a year in Germany. The homemaker felt that this was a very interesting and useful experience. She was quick to say that one of the happiest events since her marriage had been the birth of their little girl.

Attitudes

Her wants were few, but she did put among the intangibles, world peace. She thought that money was not too vital to happiness, but that health for all the family was very important. This came about from her experiences while living in her parental home. This young homemaker was married fairly young and lost her mother at an early age, so she attached great importance to good health for everyone in the family. She remembered her mother as a good youthful companion. She felt that young homemakers today differed very little from their mothers, even in ideas. She thought that young homemakers of today had perhaps a little easier time, that is, more to work with.

(More)

Information Source

The homemaker seemed to go to other people for information, but also the couple took many magazines and newspapers, and seemed to spend a good deal of their time reading. The homemaker mentioned that she would prefer to get information from leaflets and bulletins but would not be adverse to some small meetings on subjects in which she was interested.

Extension Service

She knew a little about the Extension Service, but only the home part.

Summary

In summary, I felt this young homemaker was most resourceful and interested in what is going on in the world. She might be interested in learning from some outside agency, but had found ways of informing herself in one way or another. She was interested in sewing and interior decoration, perhaps through an organized group.

Case Study No. 5 THE CHILDLESS HOMEMAKER WITH MUCH FREE TIME

Housing

This young homemaker lived near Syracuse in a new development. She was 25 years old. She lived in a new house and since her husband was often away and she had no children, she had much free time. She had been a nurse and had formerly worked part time. She had thought she might like to work again. The income was over $6,000 and the husband was a field service electrical engineer for the General Electric Company.

Family Composition

She said that they were hoping to have a family, but in the meantime, she had occupied herself with church work and women's organizations of the church, as well as being a volunteer at the Onondaga Free Library on certain days.

Organizations

Extension Service

One thing she mentioned was that she had at one time considered starting an Extension unit out in her area. She had called the local office and had found out that they should have at least 15 members, so she had dropped it. She went on to say that while there was an existing unit there, the members were older and had been in the Extension group a long time. She and her friends were interested in a group of their own.

Interests

She was a Girl Scout leader. One of her important interests was gardening and she mentioned that she had been interested for some time in methods of canning some of the produce that she raised in her garden. She also mentioned being interested in learning how to use insecticides to rid both the house and garden of insects.

Attitudes

She felt that whether a young homemaker should work outside of the home or not was an individual problem and varied with the situation. I gathered that this younger homemaker enjoyed visiting with other homemakers of her own age about cooking, sewing, and home decoration. She mentioned that she was not interested in talking with young homemakers about cleaning and nutrition, but enjoyed very much discussing cooking, sewing, home decoration, and child care. I have a feeling that until this young homemaker does have a family to take her time, with her wide interests she would be very receptive to some form of Extension organization and she could attend meetings.

Information Service

She had used in the past, books and leaflets from the Federal government that she had written for, as reference material. She had also used leaflets from the nurses association, and she used many magazines for information. She also mentioned getting information about the lawn and the garden from a friend who was a nurseryman.

Summary

In summary, I have a feeling that while this young homemaker seemed to be quite self-sufficient, she would have interest in joining some Extension group and, unlike the homemakers with young children at home, she could attend. I'm not saying that she wasn't interested in homemaking literature, in one form or another, like so many of the young homemakers mentioned, but I feel that she is one who could attend some sort of formal organization.

Case Study No. 6 THE BUSY CAPABLE HOMEMAKER

Housing

This young homemaker lived in a newly built-up suburban area near the village of Camillus. Her husband was a district manager for an insurance company.

Family Composition

She was 31 years old and had three children, the oldest one 5.

Education

Before her marriage she was a teacher and had a college education.

Organizations

Her activities centered now around church and one other organization, a woman's club of which she was an officer.

Interests

Her interests now seemed to center around the home. She had a new house with tasteful furnishings, much equipment and she mentioned having a special interest in making slip covers. She sewed quite well. Unlike many of the homemakers in the study, she did not keep detailed records of family expenditures. The one item that she did seem to know about was housing costs. Their income was over $6,000.

Information Source

Her sources of information were books, newspapers and magazines. She also obtained information about the house and lawn from neighbors and from nurserymen. As busy as she was, looking after the three children and her home, I had a feeling that the written word seemed of special value to her. She did mention, however, that when she needed to learn more about some phase of homemaking, she would be interested in small organized meetings. She could not attend if the distance was great because her husband used the company car which was the only one at their disposal.

Attitudes

This young homemaker enjoyed family life. In her free time she walked, sewed and visited neighbors. She felt that if a homemaker worked away from home, it could have a bad effect on the children. She did not care to visit with other young homemakers about mutual problems except on the subjects of cooking and child care.

Extension Service

She knew some facts about the Extension Service as related to the home.

Summary

In summary, this young homemaker seemed quite self-sufficient and mentioned that she really didn't have much time to go to meetings, because of the standards that she had set for herself for looking after her home and family. She did seem interested in receiving literature, perhaps a regular letter.

Case Study No. 7

SHE BELIEVED IT WAS POSSIBLE TO HAVE OUTSIDE INTERESTS AND BE A BETTER MOTHER BECAUSE OF THEM

Housing

This young 25-year old homemaker lived in an apartment in a remodeled house. The apartment was large and had seven rooms.

Family Composition

The couple had three little girls - age 3, 2, and 1 year. The husband was a demonstrator and mechanic for roads and buildings.

Organizations

The only formal organization that the homemaker had any part in was church.

Interests

Her main interest centered around home decoration and she was learning to sew. She had made some clothes for the children and some for herself, but felt that she had to call upon friends for aid in sewing.

Attitudes

There was a thread running through the discussion with this young homemaker that told how she enjoyed her family and felt that what they did and the way the children acted and how they "turned out" reflected her. The main thing she disliked about homemaking was the monotony. She said that she found other outlets, found someone to stay with the children, gave herself some time away from the home now and then. Two of the outlets were golf and bridge.

She would have liked to have a home of her own instead of an apartment, and she was especially interested in a yard. She thought that probably a suburb would be a good place to bring up her family. I sensed a feeling of not wanting to get too far from the advantages of a city.

Their income was over $6,000.

Information Source

As far as where she went for help with the three little girls, the pediatrician had been her main source of information. She mentioned over and over how her mother had helped her in food and nutrition, in housing and decoration. She had used professional help in choosing furnishings for the apartment. She had books and magazines that she used as reference. She preferred to get information on homemaking through a short-course. She also preferred to telephone friends and relatives when she needed some help.

Extension Service

She knew vaguely that the Extension Service was a source of homemaking information.

(More)

Summary

In summary, this young homemaker seemed to be a happy well-adjusted person and had control of her life and her family. Neither she nor her husband finished college and her husband was going to school evenings. She mentioned that she wished she could continue her formal education. She had completed 2 1/2 years of college.

I was interested in her saying that her little girls did not eat vegetables. She went on to say, "Even so, I prepare them. I fix them for my husband and myself, and I put a small serving on the children's plates; each time they leave them." She hoped the girls would try them and ultimately learn to enjoy them.

She had a very definite feeling that young women, who, like herself, found the monotony of homemaking its biggest disadvantage, could get away and she made plans for this.

I believe Extension Service information would be of help to her, and that if there were a group of her own age, she might take part.

Case Study No. 8 SHE WANTED HELP WITH HER TEENAGE GIRL

Family Composition

This young homemaker was near the top of the age grouping as she was 34 years old. She had three children - ages 11, 8 and 6.

Housing

She lived in a suburban area near Syracuse, had bought her home, and the home had five rooms. Her husband was a custom engineer for International Business Machines.

Attitudes

This homemaker worked one evening a week at a restaurant nearby from 4:30 or 5:00 until midnight. She talked at great length about her feeling about this and said that she would never take a job that was full time nor would she like to work in the daytime. She felt that the children needed her at home, that even when they were in school, she needed to be there in case there was an emergency.

Their income was over the median of $5,000 to $5,999.

Organizations

Her organizations centered around the church and the church organizations. She had also been a Campfire Leader; in fact, she was a Guardian, and was also an Assistant Cub Scout Leader.

Education

She had two years of business training beyond high school.

Interests

I had a feeling that she took great satisfaction from having bought her house and having furnished it with furnishings that brought her and the family enjoyment. She did some sewing, although she mentioned that time was an element that kept her from doing more. She enjoyed flower gardens and took great pleasure in the things that the family did together. She mentioned especially that Sunday was "family day" and that they liked to go places and do things together.

Attitudes

She was an enthusiastic person and had very definite ideas about the upbringing of the children, their relations with their school, church, and parents. When asked what she liked about homemaking, she said, "I just love all of it." Then she did admit that certain things like dishes were monotonous.

In telling of her wants for her children, she mentioned, as so many other homemakers did, that a good education for the children was her most important wish. She also mentioned that she hoped that the boys would get a good wife, the "good", I felt, reflected, perhaps, many of her own interests, qualities and standards.

(More)

Attitudes

Of special interest was her feeling that many of the outside influences on the family could be controlled by parental selection and care. Parents should select the types of television programs to which children were exposed. She felt very strongly that discipline at school was too lenient. She mentioned having told the principal of the local school at one time that she wished they would be what she called "harder on the children". She felt that the school should help the parents in this.

Information Source

She had not much need for homemaking information and said she really didn't go to many sources. She mentioned talking with friends about sewing. For care of the children in early years she depended on her pediatrician. She seemed to take quite an interest in public affairs and attended town hall meetings, read newspapers, and read a good many magazines. She expressed a great deal of interest in a possible regular letter as a means for her to keep up, as she put it.

Extension Service

She said she had heard of the Extension Service, but could not describe what it did.

She mentioned the adolescent girl as a problem, her oldest being 11. She mentioned that she wished children would talk to their parents and she would like to know how to get their confidence. I sensed that this pre-teenage period was one that she was going through with her children now and felt the need for a little direction.

Being a rather strong-minded person with quite a good sense of her own value, she didn't have too much to say about needing help on homemaking problems, but she mentioned, for example, that the children ate all kinds of vegetables because she had brought them up that way.

The new house had a basement that was equipped for the children to use in bad weather. They had a player piano there. She had a big yard and the yard was fenced. She felt very strongly about the fence as being a means of keeping out uninvited neighbor children. She felt that she should not be responsible for them. This seemed to worry her a great deal and she told about an incident in the neighborhood. A small child had wandered into a yard and had drowned in a small pool. Apparently, this homemaker had no problem with her own children because they had adequate play space and equipment to play with.

(More)

On the rating scale she rated herself high to average with the exception of flexibility which she rated below the average.

Summary

In summary, I felt that this young homemaker was quite strong-minded. She had very definite ideas on family upbringing and relationships within the home. Her home was kept very clean and I felt that this was a fetish with her. On the other hand, she seemed to be a moderately well-rounded person. She had organizational ability but needed guidance or she might become dictatorial.

Case Study No. 9 THE YOUNG MOTHER OF FOUR WHO WAS ESPECIALLY AWARE OF THE IMPORTANCE OF FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS

Family Composition

This young homemaker lived near Syracuse in a suburban area. She was 28 years old. She had four children - a girl and three boys, all under school age. The oldest two children were in and out during the interview and seemed very well behaved. They were obedient and happy with their play out-of-doors. The little 1 1/2 year old boy was in the room a good deal of the time and he also seemed to do what his mother told him to do without too much question. I did not see the 3-months old boy, whom the mother said had just recovered from meningitis.

Housing

The house had six rooms and the couple owned the house. Their income was within the range of $5,000 to $5,999 a year.

The husband was a salesman of Allied Automative Parts. The homemaker did private nursing for 16 hours a week to earn extra money.

Education

This homemaker had a college education and had been married six years.

The family owned a car, and the husband had use of the compnay car, so the homemaker said she could always have access to the family car even though it was an older model.

The family had a radio, television, and much of the electrical equipment for homemaking with the exception of a sewing machine and freezer.

Organizations

The only formal organization the homemaker belonged to was church, as her family and her work kept her too busy to take part in other organizations.

Needs

The equipment the homemaker wished that she had to make homemaking easier was, first a sewing machine, and then a freezer.

She felt a need for information on sewing and gardening. She also mentioned that these were both types of needs that she would go out of her way to learn. At this point, the only sewing she did was mending. Her reasons were that she didn't know how, didn't have time and didn't have a sewing machine. She liked to get meals at home but did not particularly enjoy cooking. She had no particular enjoyment in selecting curtains or draperies or making them.

(More)

Interests

As far as budgeting was concerned, she said they did budget, but the records were sketchy. Of course, they had records on housing and health, she said, but little else. She had very little free time during the day and when she did have free time, she liked to read magazines and books. Her answers to the question as to what way out of difficulties and tasks, she would choose, were very interesting. She would always try to save money and make it go as far as possible. The family eating habits reflected training in that for the most part, they ate all kinds of foods that were set before them without quibbling.

Of special interest was her answer to what she liked about homemaking. She mentioned specifically the satisfaction of accomplishment. She said that the only homemaking jobs she disliked were cooking and ironing.

This young homemaker thought that the happiest events since her marriage had been the arrival of the children. She wanted for the children education, happiness, and satisfaction from life. She also mentioned that the education was definitely to be up to the children; that is, she wanted an education for the children if they wanted it.

As to tangibles and intangibles she wanted out of life, more than she is now getting, she checked the usual tangibles of more money, better house, and another car that was a better car, and travel; but her biggest want in the intangibles was time. The want for money was not for a large amount she made this very clear but just so they didn't feel quite so pinched, and perhaps, she would not have to work. The new car, was not a very big want, but she would like a station wagon so they could take the family out together.

There seemed to be no special problems from influences outside the home. The homemaker did say she felt if a mother worked full time outside of the home, it would have a bad effect on family life.

I was interested in her telling that if she could live anywhere she chose, it would be in New England. Among the things she mentioned that both she and her husband liked were the climate, the people, the culture, and the countryside.

Attitudes

This young homemaker had a rather unique answer to the question, "How do you think young homemakers of today differ from their mothers?" Her answer was that she thought young homemakers were more aware of their influences on their children. She spelled this out to mean the awareness of the importance of relationships, the role of parents, and then specifically the influences that surround the family such as the aforementioned television influence. I was much impressed with her quiet, gentle management of the children and felt that her own happy outlook reflected itself in their behavior and attitudes.

(More)

Information Source

She was not especially interested in visiting with homemakers her own age about mutual problems other than managing a home and child care. Her present sources of information were friends and relatives and books and magazines. She took one news magazine and one homemaking magazine and a daily paper, and mentioned that she liked to read all types of books.

Extension Service

In answer to the question about her knowledge of the Cooperative Extension Service, she really checked "no" that she did not know what it was. She did know about 4-H Club work because the agent who had given her name had been a former 4-H Club Agent.

Ways in which she prepared to get more information about homemaking, or learn more about it, were evening meetings of one sort or another. She liked the idea of a regular letter.

Summary

In summary, I felt that this homemaker enjoyed her family and that their welfare was all-important. Mass media Extension information might be of help to her.

Case Study No. 10 THIS VERY RECENTLY MARRIED HOMEMAKER EMPLOYED FULL TIME

Family Composition

This young homemaker was 21 years old and lived in the city of Syracuse. The couple had been married for 7 months only.

Housing

They lived in a 3-room apartment. Their income was within the range of $3,500 to $4,999. The husband's occupation was radio guidance with the General Electric Company. The homemaker worked full time as a beautician.

Education

She had a high school education followed by hairdressing school for six months.

The couple owned a car and the homemaker always had access to it. They had a radio, television, and some of the electrical equipment for homemaking. They owned a steam iron, mixer, vacuum cleaner, and floor polisher, but they did not have washing and drying equipment, an electric frypan, nor a sewing machine.

Organizations

Her only membership in any formal organization was in church, and I gathered that since she worked daily, she did not have time for more.

Needs

In thinking about needs, the equipment she wished she had was a washer and dryer. She went on to say that she did not feel a need for any homemaking information. The fact that she worked full time and had only a small apartment to keep, seemed to be the reason for this, but later she said that she might go out of her way to get help on finances.

She did not have time to sew and had no sewing machine. She cooked most of her meals at home and enjoyed selecting curtains and draperies when she bought them She, of course, did not make them.

They did budget family expenditures, but kept few records of expenditures. They had no record of expenditures for education.

Interests

Her only free time was evenings and she said she usually had two to three hours then. During that time she liked to visit with friends, watch television, read, and mend.

Attitudes

As to her feelings about homemaking, she said she enjoyed all of it, and, strangely enough, liked to wash although washing equipment was the type of equipment she didn't have. She mentioned that she didn't like to iron.

(More)

Attitudes

She included in happy events since her marriage, going out to dinner with her husband and the men and wives of the General Electric Company. She had little to say about other special events in the 7 months they had been married.

As to the tangibles and intangibles that she would like to get out of life, she mentioned money, and a new house as being important and she said they would like to get a camp so that they had a place on a lake. Among the intangibles, time was what she wanted, and of course, to keep her health and happiness. I was interested in her feeling about the homemaker working outside of the home, especially since she had no children, but she did have an opinion. She said that she was very sure that the homemaker should not work while the children were small. She even questioned whether the mother should work when they were in high school. She said it was lonesome for a child to come home and not find anybody at home. She believed that at an early age, there was training to be done.

If she could live anywhere she chose, it would be in a house, not an apartment, in a suburb of Syracuse. She thought young homemakers of today differed from their mothers in that they took their homemaking less seriously and also that the work was easier for them with automation

She was rather lukewarm toward visiting with homemakers her own age about mutual problems.

Information Source

When she wanted information, she went to books, friends, relatives. Her husband managed most of the finances. She read newspapers, listened to television and radio for information on public affairs. The couple read three magazines regularly, none of which were homemaking magazines They took a daily and a Sunday paper. She mentioned that she liked to read all types of books.

Extension Service

In regard to whether or not she knew about the Extension Service, she checked "yes", but when she answered the question about its function she said "It takes surveys like the one you are doing". Then she mentioned that she knew about 4-H because she had been a member.

Summary

In answer to the question about which way she would like to get any information on homemaking, she thought that some time later when she wasn't working, she would like to attend meetings, and liked the idea of a regular letter. This young homemaker would perhaps, be interested in evening meetings of Extension and mass media information.

Case Study No. 11 THE HOMEMAKER WHO WORRIED ABOUT SECURITY

Family Composition

This 22 year old young homemaker lived in Syracuse and had one child, 7 months old.

Housing

She lived in a 5-room house and the income was in the range of $3,500 to $4,999.

Education

Her husband was a factory worker in the candle factory. The homemaker worked two days a week as a secretary. This seemed to be necessary as a means of increasing family earnings. She had a high school education and a year of business school.

The couple had been married a year and a half. She mentioned that they did have a car and that in the daytime it was never available to her, but it was in the evenings. They had a good deal of electrical equipment for homemaking, but did not have a dryer or a sewing machine.

Organizations

The only formal organization of which she was a member was church.

Needs

In discussing needs, she said she wished she had a dryer and a sewing machine to make homemaking easier. In telling of the type of information for which this homemaker felt a need, she mentioned home decoration and child care and then went on to say that she wanted decoration ideas that were not costly. She wanted help with cooking, how to save time, and ideas that were not expensive. She would go out of her way to learn something about home decoration.

She sewed very little and the fact that she had no sewing machine, was the main reason. She cooked most of her meals at home and said that she enjoyed cooking, and spent much time preparing food for the small child. She enjoyed buying and selecting curtains and draperies, but did not make them.

As to budgeting, she felt that they did budget for family expenditures, and yet she kept only partial records. She kept neither clothing records nor education records.

Interest

In regard to interests, she said she had very little free time, about an hour a day, and on the days that she did not work, even her evenings were quite busy because she had to get the food ready for the child for the next day and also do regular house work. Her mother looked after the child during the day. Her comment about cooking in relation to the fact that she worked, was of interest. She had said that she enjoyed cooking, but when she was working, she had to cook so fast and prepare only the necessities, that the job wasn't so enjoyable. In her free time she liked to read and take walks with the baby.

(More)

Interests

In taking care of some of the difficulties of homemaking tasks, I felt that she was not as resourceful as some. She had no unusual solutions, but indicated that she would try again, or look to somebody for help and suggestions. Some of this as far as eating was concerned, had to do with knowing that her husband would not change his habits. She mentioned that he liked only two vegetables and salads. The baby ate vegetables fairly well and the mother tried to prepare vegetables another way if he didn't eat them the first time. In regard to buying, this homemaker mentioned that usually she would take back whatever was unsatisfactory if she could get downtown, or to the place she had purchased it.

Attitudes

The thing that she liked about homemaking was child care and she also liked to paint walls and woodwork. Apparently, the couple themselves had been doing some work on the inside of the house. She disliked, especially the monotony of the various jobs of homemaking and specifically, she disliked defrosting and cleaning the refrigerator, and cleaning the oven.

One of the happiest events since her marriage was the birth of their child. She talked quite at length about their first Christmas. I gathered that they had been married December 1, so that this first Christmas together made a great impression.

In telling of wants for her child, she mentioned a college education, health, good friends and a home of his own.

In regard to what more she would like out of life than she was now getting, she mentioned money and a better house. She was especially fond of colonial furniture. As far as intangibles were concerned, she wanted to be sure to keep her health and happiness, and I gathered that she worried about their security. Her husband had injured his leg while on the job and an operation was required. This happened just after she came home from the hospital with the new baby. She wanted to have enough to live on comfortably, although, a lot of money was not her request. Her solutions to problems of tasks of homemaking, were very good.

This homemaker was quite definite in feeling that if a mother worked outside the home, it had an undesirable influence on the family. She felt that if she worked full time, this would not be good, and I gathered that later as her child grew older, she hoped she would not have to work.

(More)

Attitudes

She would like to live in Syracuse, in a better house, if she could live anywhere she chose. She felt that homemakers today differ from their mothers in that they have more appliances, more prepared foods, and so "have things easier". She thought that today's homemakers had more pressures from outside influences. She mentioned that whether her parents had a car or not didn't matter in her parent's day. Nowadays, if one lived away from the center of town, there was not a way to get there, and so a car was important, and even a necessity.

This homemaker liked especially visiting with homemakers her own age about cooking, home decoration, managing the home, and child care. She did not like to discuss sewing and cleaning.

Information Source

She consulted cookbooks and to her relatives for information on food and nutrition, and her relatives for information on clothing and textiles. Her husband was the source of their financial information and she liked to read books, magazines and newspapers for housing and decoration information. She mentioned that she considered the pediatrician a good source of information on child development and family relations. Books, too, she considered an excellent source. She listened to television, for news especially and for information on public affairs. Most of the magazines that she read regularly were home magazines but some were fiction. She mentioned that they took a daily paper, and she enjoyed books of fiction.

Extension Service

In regard to her knowledge of the Extension Service, she checked that she knew what it was, but knew it under the name of Home Bureau.

If she wanted to learn more about some phase of homemaking, she preferred meetings and short-courses, although at this time she might not be able to attend. Apparently, she was hungry for meetings with a group of her own age. She expressed interest in a regular letter, and also in newspaper items about homemaking.

Summary

In summary, I think that this young homemaker was a potential for finding some help through the Extension Service, taking into consideration the limitations mentioned above.

Case Study No. 12 THE HOMEMAKER WHO WANTED MORE EDUCATION

Family Composition

This 21-year old homemaker lived in the city of Syracuse She had two children, both pre-school age.

Housing

They lived in a 5-room apartment and their income fell in the bracket of $3,500 to $4,999. Her husband was a Cyto-technician for the Crouse-Irving Hospital.

The homemaker was not employed outside of the home, but did take care of another baby, not her own, for pay

Education

This homemaker had a high school education and her husband was going to night school. The couple have been married three years.

They had a car, but it was never available to her as her husband needed it in his work. She also mentioned that she did not know how to drive and a little later on, cited learning to drive as one of her wants. They owned a radio and a television. The household equipment that the couple had was quite sufficient except they did not have a sewing machine.

Organizations

The couple belonged to several church organizations besides church and Sunday school, in which her husband taught. The homemaker and her husband belonged to a young couples club that was a church organization in which she was an officer.

Needs

In identifying needs, the homemaker mentioned wanting to make homemaking easier with a floor polisher and a sewing machine. The information she needed was on gardening, for they were planning to have some garden space. She was interested also in refinishing furniture. As to what she would go out of her way to learn, she mentioned sewing and refinishing.

She did not sew except for mending, mainly because she did not know how, and, because she had no sewing machine. She cooked most of her meals at home. The reasons she checked were that it saved money and that it was best for the children However, she said she did not always enjoy cooking. She did like buying draperies and curtains, but did not make them. As far as budgeting and records are concerned, apparently her husband did a pretty good job of this. She could always find costs if she needed to refer to records of family expenditures.

Interests

Her free time consisted of one or two hours during the day plus her time in the evenings when the children were in bed She mentioned that she liked to read in her free time, and write letters, and that she also liked to do the jobs that needed doing when the children were asleep. She liked to take the children for walks.

(More)

Interests

I felt this young homemaker had an excellent selection of solutions for difficult tasks. She usually tried to find out the reason for her trouble and seek help from someone else. She felt that she could help the children to learn to like vegetables by serving small amounts or changing the method of preparation, but like so many other young homemakers, didn't serve to her husband vegetables he didn't like. In the buying solutions, I was conscious of the fact that she had to watch the pennies. The purchases that she made, if not satisfactory, were taken back and adjustments asked for.

Attitudes

Things she liked about homemaking were seeing the children eat well, and she making her own decisions about homemaking. What she disliked about homemaking, was having the children sick and the problems that this brought. She also disliked the specific job of caring for wood floors.

Some of the happiest events since her marriage were the birth of the children and the last reunion that she had with her family. She also mentioned that moving to Syracuse was a big event.

As to what she wanted for her children, she mentioned health first, and then money for clothing and the necessities and last a good education.

As to what she would like out of life, more than she is now getting, she mentioned under the tangibles, more money, a house rather than an apartment, another car or a better one, and some travel. In the intangibles, she felt that she needed time and would like to keep the health and happiness that the family had. I was interested in the fact that she would like more education ... she said not for credit, but she would just like to attend some educational institution for her own sake. She seemed to be a very happy and well-adjusted person. She said that she didn't have a great longing for money, but she wanted enough so they didn't have to worry -- so that they could pay the bills, and go out for an evening without worrying about the cost. Her husband was going to school in the evening and this added to their load of expenses deprived them of time together.

Attitudes

Influences from the outside, she did not worry about especially. She thought selected programs on television and records had a very good influence on the entire family The children had adequate play space, both inside and outside, with the exception that sometimes the outside area created a problem in that the children went elsewhere to play.

(More)

Attitudes

While she was not now working away from home, she had worked at one time, and she felt that after the sitter had been paid, there was little profit. She thought it had a bad influence on the children and on the family as a whole. She also worried about the presence of neighborhood children in the yard when the children were unsupervised. She thought that her own children learned to use very bad language and other bad habits from neighborhood children.

If she could live anywhere she chose, she would like to remain in Syracuse and she preferred a house rather than an apartment.

She felt that young homemakers of today had more leisure than their mothers, easier house work, and were more relaxed in their attitude.

She seemed to feel that she didn't have much time for visiting with young homemakers her own age about mutual problems. She liked "very much" discussing child care with other young homemakers.

Information Source

She used magazines and newspapers for most of her homemaking information and mentioned the stores as a source of information on clothing. She also mentioned the pediatrician, books and friends as sources of information on child care. If she gardened, which she hoped to do, she would consult books and magazines, but at the moment she felt no need for information on gardening.

Extension Service

She checked that she did not know what the Extension Service was, but had heard of the Home Bureau.

She would like to learn about the phases of homemaking from a short-course, and from mass media such as newspapers, magazines, leaflets, and bulletins. She was not interested in a regular letter. She felt she would like to telephone when she needed information, and also, was interested, if it were at all possible, in home visits from professionals.

On the rating scale, she checked herself average and not as high as did many of the homemakers.

Summary

In summary, I feel that this young homemaker would be interested in Extension Service literature and in intensive types of training meetings.

Case Study No. 13

SHE RESENTED OUTSIDE INFLUENCES INVADING HER PRIVACY

Family Composition

This 27-year old young homemaker lived in Syracuse and had two children, both under school age.

Housing

The couple lived in a house that had six rooms. The family income was above the $5,999 amount because the homemaker was helping by teaching in the spring term.

Education

The husband had just finished his graduate work and was prepared to be a minister. He was looking for a job as a college chaplain. The homemaker had a college education, and her Master's degree.

The couple had been married five years and had been fairly stable as far as number of moves are concerned. They had a car and it was always available to the homemaker.

In regard to other equipment, they had a radio, television, and most of the electrical equipment on the list. They had also some other small equipment to help with homemaking.

Organizations

In regard to formal organizations, the couple were, of course, members of church and Sunday school, and the homemaker had an office in the Women's Fellowship Group. She belonged to the Mothers' Club of the school, and her other activities were centered around alumni groups of Vassar College. Their home was headquarters for the American Youth Hostel. I gathered that they had some help from a woman in handling the book work and arrangements, and the American Youth Hostel sign was on their house.

Needs

When talking about equipment, the homemaker mentioned a desire for a larger freezing unit and also a full sized mixer, and a better sewing machine. She said that she did not feel the need for homemaking information, but did mention that she would go out of her way to learn about freezing. She had some information on it, and would be interested in further information. She checked, as to the sewing, that she did sew some, and enjoyed it, and felt that it saved money, but that she didn't have enough time. She usually sewed when she had to be home with the children. She cooked most of her meals at home and said she enjoyed cooking. She mentioned liking to be creative in her cooking with the use of spices and herbs. She did not enjoy selecting curtains and draperies, when she bought them, but she did enjoy making them.

As far as family budgeting and records are concerned, she checked that they budgeted and had records on almost everythink except recreation costs.

(More)

Needs

In answering the question whether she had any free time, she said; "No". If she did have it, she would like to get away with her husband without the children, for certain times.

Attitudes

What she liked about homemaking was being with the children, as much as her teaching allowed. She also enjoyed cooking What she disliked, she said, was noise and interruptions. Apparently, because of her husband's position, the interruptions were quite frequent and seemed to be an annoyance to her. She considered one of the happiest events since her marriage the arrival of the children. She also said that she had wanted a boy and a girl, in that order, and her wishes had been fulfilled.

In telling what she wanted for her children, this homemaker was very specific in saying that she wanted them to have the opportunity to reach the highest level that they could reach. She said her other wants included more economic security than their mother had known. What she wanted out of life more than she was now getting was travel and more time

She mentioned how capable her husband was in many areas. She said that he did the redecorating of the house, while they were living in it. They had purchased a new one and planned to move in a short time to the better house which had a yard for gardening. She also mentioned that the husband could "do anything with the children", as she put it, and he was more patient than she was with them.

Her solutions or ways out of difficulties in household tasks, were quite thoughtful ones. She felt that when she purchased some items that proved to be unsatisfactory, she would like to let the stores know, but she did not always ask for an adjustment.

Attitudes

The influences of television and records, she thought, were very good on her family. She did know of other children that were unsupervised as to selection of television programs, and she felt that in that case, they had a bad effect on children. She was glad to be moving because she did have some problems about the play area, both inside and outside, for the children and she worried some about dangerous steps. As to the influence of the homemaker working away from the home, she felt that it depended on the intelligence of the homemaker and her handling of this, whether it was good or bad, but for the most part, she thought it didn't hurt in her case. The husband took the children to a woman who had children of her own, to be cared for during the time that this homemaker was teaching. In regard to the other influences, she felt that the selection of friends for the children and for the family was very important, and reflected the values of the family.

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Attitudes

If she could live anywhere she chose, she would move to a more temperate climate. She thought they would like a place out west, maybe, like Denver. She said that the winters here were too bad. She felt that she was house-bound, and that the children were house-bound too. She tried to take care of this situation by learning to ski and getting out-of-doors with the children. Then she added that her husband as a college chaplain, with his training, felt that the west might offer a more "vibrant community", as she put it.

She felt that young homemakers today have more pressures, and that it is more difficult now to find privacy. She mentioned that things that one hadn't asked for came to the house -- she was talking about unwanted literature and about telephone calls. I gathered that this was quite a bugbear to her, and she felt a lack of privacy. In visiting with homemakers her own age, she said she enjoyed talking about cooking, sewing, and home decoration, but cared not at all about discussing nutrition, cleaning, and managing. She enjoyed "very much" discussing child care with other young homemakers.

Information Source

Her sources of information on nutrition, clothing and home decoration, were largely magazines and as far as the decoration was concerned, she said she consulted professionals, and she planned to have a professional decorator help her with the redecoration of her new home. She referred to books and magazines for information on child development and public affairs though there was much in the newspapers on public affairs that was of value. For gardening, she referred to friends and magazines.

The types of magazines that the family read regularly were rather interesting. She mentioned the Reporter, The National Geographic, The Opera News, Time, The American Home, Woman's Day, Family Circle and a home craft magazine called The Work Basket. The newspaper to which they subscribed was a daily. She enjoyed all sorts of reading, both fiction and non-fiction.

Extension Service

As to the Extension Service, she checked that she did know what it was, and that it was a source of information on homemaking.

She mentioned that for learning about phases of homemaking, she preferred magazines, leaflets, and bulletins, and then telephoning when she needed help.

On the rating scale, she had some very high ratings of herself, and some lower than I would have expected - high on flexibility, resourcefulness and good homemaker and low on good companion. She had insight as to what these various words in the rating scale meant, and I thought looked at it in a somewhat different way from that of other young homemakers.

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Summary

In summary, I believe, that this young homemaker felt fairly adequate as to all phases of homemaking, and would not necessarily be a potential for help from the Extension Service. If she had time, she might contribute leadership.

Case Study No. 14 THE FORMER TEACHER WHO FELT A NEED FOR MORE GENERAL HOMEMAKING INFORMATION

Family Composition

This 25-year old young homemaker lived in a village in Onondaga County that had a population of less than 2500. She had one little boy, one year old.

Housing

The family lived in a rented house in the village. Their income was somewhat over the $5,000 to $5,999 bracket.

Education

The husband taught history and the wife was not employed. She had been a teacher and had a Master's degree in history.

The family owned a car but it was seldom available to her.

The equipment that they had included a radio and television, and certain household equipment. She did not have a steam iron, dryer, or sewing machine.

Organizations

Her formal organizations included church and Sunday school. The homemaker had been a member of the League of Women Voters when she lived in another village and she planned to join here.

Needs

Equipment that she wished that she had was a rug cleaner. This house that they rented had rugs in every room and she was quite concerned about keeping the rugs in good order.

For types of homemaking information or help that she might feel a need, she mentioned stain removal and cooking. She seemed to feel that stain removal was important enough that she would go out of her way to learn more about it.

She did not sew because she didn't know how and because she did not have a sewing machine. She cooked most of her meals at home and enjoyed cooking very much. Curtains and draperies she enjoyed selecting when she bought them, but she did not make these.

This homemaker answered "Yes" to the question on whether she budgeted for the family expenditures, but she said the budget wasn't written. As far as records for family expenditures are concerned, she checked only a few of these, including housing, health, services and education, and so did not keep complete records.

Interests

She said she had some free time, only about an hour a day, and then a couple of hours in the evening. She liked to spend her free time reading and watching television. Her solutions to difficulties in doing various tasks were interesting. She seemed to find her way out of each difficulty with a good choice of solution. I was interested in the fact that when we were talking about serving vegetables to the little boy and to the husband, she said that she had no problem with the child and also made it very clear that she cooked quite a variety of vegetables for herself, even those her husband did not like. She did not urge him to eat them, if he did not like them, but she still prepared them for herself.

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This homemaker was a little older than some others in the study and yet she said when asked what she liked about homemaking, that she enjoyed all of it and mentioned especially cooking. She disliked the lack of what she called "a challenge of ideas", which she experienced when she was teaching school. She felt the homemaking job was monotonous

The birth of the little boy loomed large as one of the happiest events since their marriage. She wanted for him in the future, what she called, "acceptance of what he is". I gathered that this meant that she felt she wanted him to do what he was capable of doing, and to make his own decisions. She added health as an important want also for this child.

As to the tangible and intangible wants, she did not check very many things. They did want to buy a home. She added to the tangibles that they wanted a larger family. As far as the intangibles were concerned, she said that she had time to do what she wanted to do, and wanted to keep health and happiness.

Attitudes

About outside influences of television, records, and play area, she was not too concerned. Her main point was that the homemaker's working away from home, was not good, although she did think that it depended upon the individual and how she went about it. She mentioned also that she hoped to go to work again when the little boy could be sent to a nursery school. This stemmed from her training and her desire to become a "whole person" and get away from the monotony of homemaking. She mentioned that she might even start working when the little boy could walk; she thought that he was becoming a mommy's boy because of the mother's complete attention.

When asked the question "If you could live anywhere, where would you choose?", she mentioned desiring a small community. She would like to be near a city, but not necessarily in a surburban area. In other words, a location similar to what they have now, was her choice.

This homemaker felt that young women today have more time than their mothers had. She thought another difference was that in her mother's day the idea of women working outside of the home was frowned upon.

She did not especially like to visit with homemakers her own age about mutual problems, except for home decoration and child care.

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Information Source

Her present source of information on food and nutrition was books and cookbooks, and, for the child's eating, Dr. Spock's book. She did not have any source of information on many areas of subject matter, but referred to Dr. Spock again for child development. She and her husband seemed to discuss public affairs some and she read books and magazines, and listened to the television news. The couple read a variety of news magazines and women's magazines and took a daily paper. This homemaker said that she enjoyed reading all kinds of books, both fiction and non-fiction.

Extension Service

She checked that she did know what the Extension Service was and considered it to be an information source.

As to ways she would prefer to get any information, she checked mass media ways such as radio, newspaper, magazines, and a regular letter.

Summary

In summary, I feel that this homemaker had some potential for help from the Extension Service. With as much education as she had, she was quite well equipped, but did mention that she had to learn a good many things about homemaking after she was married.

Case Study No. 15 THE GRADUATE SOCIAL WORKER EXPECTING HER FIRST CHILD

Family Composition

This 25-year old homemaker lived in the city of Syracuse and had no children, but was expecting a child soon.

Housing

The couple lived in a 3-room apartment. Their salary was in the $5,000 to $5,999 bracket.

The husband was employed as a radio announcer and news man for a local radio station.

Education

The homemaker had not been working, but planned to do so during the last part of her pregnancy, beginning immediately. She had just completed the requirements for a Master's degree in Social Work.

The couple had been married three years and had lived in the same locality since their marriage. The couple had a car and the car was available to the homemaker. They also had a radio and television, and quite a good deal of equipment for homemaking, but no washer, dryer, or vacuum cleaner They had a freezer in addition to the freezing unit in the refrigerator. Since the parents of the homemaker lived on a farm, they provided her with many types of food including meats and garden produce to put into the freezer. She was very much interested in this phase of homemaking.

Organizations

The formal organizations that interested her were church and Sunday school; she taught a class in Sunday school. She also had been a member of the Central Community Organization that was related to her social work.

Needs

This homemaker's equipment wants included a dish-washer, washer and dryer. She did not seem to feel a need for homemaking information as she had been a 4-H Club member and leader at one time. She had sewed much and liked to sew. Recently her graduate work had filled her time but she planned to do more sewing in the future. As far as cooking was concerned, she mentioned that they cooked most of their meals at home and had an additional reason besides those on the questionnaire for doing so ... she considered home-cooked food more nutritious.

She enjoyed selecting curtains and draperies, but did not enjoy making them.

To the question about whether or not they budgeted family expenditures, she answered "No", but they did keep a record of amounts spent for everything except recreation

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Interests

She checked that she had now no free time, but hoped that after she started to work, rather than going to school, her evenings would be free. She would like to spend her time cooking, sewing, playing tennis, and reading. She hoped to have two full days a week free during the latter part of her pregnancy.

She seemed to be quite self-sufficient in finding her way out of homemaking difficulties. Her best methods of getting her husband to eat vegetables that he didn't like, were to serve him small servings or try to find different method of preparation that he liked. She was quite conscious of money and costs, as far as purchased products were concerned. If they were unsatisfactory, she usually took them back and asked for an adjustment. This might not happen if she had to make a special trip, but she assured me that usually she did take back any product that was not satisfactory.

Attitudes

What this homemaker especially liked about homemaking was making a home for her husband. She disliked certain tasks, such as ironing and dish-washing, but on the whole, enjoyed the job of homemaking.

The happiest events in her life were things that she and her husband had found time to do together, such as vacations. They were very excited about the coming child and thought this would be a large event in their lives. For the child, the important wants she assured me, would be as much education as he desired. She made quite a point of this as she had known children who were forced to go to school when they had other talents. She also said she wanted a normal, well-adjusted child and then added that she would like the child to have a rural experience. This she felt was very important and, I gathered, was related to her own background.

Her tangible wants included mainly a desire for travel and she added that they would like ultimately to go back to the middle West to live where their families were. They also liked that part of the country best. The intangibles included a desire for more time, as they both had been very busy with graduate work until recently.

In regard to outside influences, she had quite a definite feeling that television could have a bad influence if it wasn't selective. However, they did select programs and didn't let the television rule them. She had very definite opinions about the homemaker working away from the home. She felt it could be worse for the homemaker not to work if she unhappy doing only the homemaking job.

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Attitudes

Although at this time she had no children, she expressed a very definite opinion about their relations with school. She felt that children should be taught to respect the school and that the parents should also have a part in school activities and have some say in decisions. In other words, she mentioned she thought this was a two-way affair. She added to the list of outside influences one that she considered bad which was what she called "neighborhood cranks". She thought that we could have added to our list, church activities as having an excellent effect on the child's life.

As to ways in which young homemakers of today differ from their mothers, she mentioned that she thought today's homemaker does not spend as much time on homemaking as her mother did because of conveniences and appliances. She thought also that the homemaker of today was more interested in reading and outside activities. She felt too, that today's young homemaker was often better educated than her mother, but not always educated in homemaking. She concluded by saying that she thought that perhaps today's homemaker took marriage more lightly and that they figured they could always get a divorce if the marriage didn't work out.

She checked only "some" under the question of whether or not she liked to visit with young homemakers her own age about mutual problems. She really preferred to get away from these topics when she visited with friends.

Information Sources

Her sources of information were books on food and nutrition, and her past experiences. She said she would call on the Extension Service, if needed. For clothing and textiles information, the stores and her mother were her sources. For the financial part of management, she said they consulted their banker. For home decoration information she used magazines. Magazines also gave her information on public affairs. She consulted local officers if she needed more information. For gardening information, she referred to magazines. The kinds of magazines she read regularly were homemaker's magazines, news magazines and some professional journals that had to do with social work. She read all kinds of books and one point of interest was that they took the Minneapolis paper, rather than a local paper.

Extension Service

She was well informed about the Extension Service for she had been a member. She said her own family had always participated, but she was not now a member. She would prefer mass media methods of receiving information and was interested in a regular letter.

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Summary

In summary, as far as being a potential for Extension Service, I felt that this young homemaker did not think that she necessarily needed additional help. She said that she would call on the Extension Service if she needed help. In spite of her self-assurance due to her social work background, I felt that her appearance and the condition of the apartment warranted some improvement. No doubt some of the mass media methods of approaching her would be the best, especially if she becomes employed.

Case Study No. 16 THE FORMER TEACHER OF SOCIAL STUDIES WHO LIKED TO SEW

Family Composition

This 24-year old homemaker had no children; the couple had just lost their baby.

Housing

They lived in the city of Syracuse, in a 3-room apartment. Their income was over the $5,000 to $5,999 bracket.

Education

The husband was an industrial salesman. The homemaker, at present, was not working. She had been teaching school up until March 27, when the baby was expected. She had been teaching Social Studies in high school; that is why they had the larger income. She had a college education and several hours toward a higher degree.

The couple had been married a year and a half and had moved once from one apartment to another.

The couple had a car and it was not usually available to the homemaker. Once in a while she could have it. She mentioned that this was possible usually only on weekends as her husband used the car in his business. They had a radio, television, and most of the homemaking equipment listed on the questionnaire except a washer and dryer.

Organizations

The only formal organization that the couple belonged to was church. The homemaker did mention that she had been a member of the New York State Education Association when she was teaching.

Needs

Equipment that she wished that she had included a washer and dryer. She expressed a wish for a larger apartment. She also mentioned that the type of information that she felt a need for was sewing. She said she would go out of her way to learn about sewing. She did some sewing, enjoyed it, and felt that it saved money, but while she was teaching, she did not have time to sew. Now since they had lost the child, and she was not teaching, she was alone much of the week for her husband traveled. She felt that she could do some sewing now. She cooked most of their meals at home and enjoyed cooking.

She enjoyed buying curtains and draperies, but did not ever make them.

The couple budgeted for family expenditures, but had not kept complete records. She said that they had no record of clothing expenditures or recreation expenditures.

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Interests

This homemaker had quite a lot of free time. She said that it could be as much as four hours a day, plus her evenings. She enjoyed reading in her spare time, visiting with her friends, shopping, and going out to the lake.

She had quite good solutions for taking care of difficulties in homemaking tasks. She felt that if small items that she purchased proved unsatisfactory, she wouldn't bother to take them back, but would take back and ask for an adjustment on larger, more expensive items.

Attitudes

The things that she liked about homemaking included entertaining, making her own decisions, and selecting the furniture and draperies. She said that she really disliked nothing about homemaking. She did not like to work outside of the home and keep house, too.

The happiest events since their marriage included a business trip with her husband to the South, and then her pregnancy. She was greatly disappointed when she did not have the baby. She listed as her important wants for children, when she had them, a secure future and a good education. As far as what she wanted out of life was concerned, she mentioned under the tangibles, money, a better apartment, and that clothes and travel were not especially needed, but would be nice. She added to the list that she wanted a family. Among intangibles she desired time to do what the couple wanted to do together and she wanted to keep health and happiness.

In regard to outside influences, she felt that television had only a fair influence on adults and children. She thought that if the programs were selected, the television could have a better effect. She also mentioned that the homemaker's working away from home, could have a bad effect. She felt that it was really dependent on how the individual concerned went about it. She said for herself, she would really prefer not to work full time, if she had small children, but in the next breath, said she wanted to go back to teaching. I gathered that this was partly a fulfillment of the desire to use her education and also a fulfillment of a financial need.

In checking where she would like to live, she said "Anywhere as long as it is with my husband". She would like to have a home of their own.

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Here was one respondent who felt that young homemakers of today did not differ very much from their mothers. She said that today's homemakers had a few more appliances, but her mother was quite young, so that there was a shorter span between ages and so not much difference.

This homemaker was not enthusiastic about visiting with young homemakers her own age about mutual problems, but she did check liking to discuss child care, in spite of the fact that she had lost her own child.

Information Source

Her sources of information were books, friends, and relatives and she mentioned the banker as a source of financial management information. The couple took a good many magazines, both news and homemaking magazines. They also subscribed to two Syracuse dailies and sometimes bought the Sunday Times. She liked to read both fiction and non-fiction.

Extension Service

She checked that she did not know what the Extension Service was. Her choices for ways of learning more about homemaking included radio, television, newspapers, magazines, leaflets, and bulletins. Sometimes she telephoned for information.

Summary

This young homemaker's potential for the Extension Service, perhaps, is mainly through mass media. She had a good education and felt that she had a source for needed information. However, she did check the mass media types. I thought that she might be a potential for other ways because she did have much free time and an interest in sewing. If she went back to teaching, she would have less time.

Case Study No. 17 THE HOMEMAKER WHO ENJOYED EVERYTHING ABOUT HOMEMAKING

Family Composition

This 24-year old homemaker lived in the city of Syracuse and had one little girl, one-year old.

Housing

The house had 5 rooms and gave evidence of good care and upkeep. The husband's salary was somewhat above the median of $5,000 to $5,999.

The husband's occupation was office manager of the Netherlands Dairy and the homemaker did not work outside of the home.

Education

This young homemaker had a high school education The couple had been married two years and had not moved in that time.

They owned a car and it was sometimes available to the homemaker. They had a radio and television. Among the electrical household equipment they owned, were a steam iron, washer, electric frypan, mixer, vacuum cleaner and electric perculator.

Organizations

This young homemaker was a member of a church and participated in the activities of the Couples Club of the church and the Eastern Star.

Needs

In identifying needs, when asked what equipment she wished she had to make homemaking easier, she mentioned a dishwasher. She felt that she would like information or had felt a need for information on food and child care. The one type of information that she would go out of her way to learn was information on child care. Her sewing consisted of mending only; her reasons being that she didn't know how to sew and, she did not have a machine. She cooked most of her meals at home for the usual reasons. She enjoyed selecting curtains and draperies for her home but had never made any.

She said that they did budget family expenditures, but kept incomplete records. They did not have a record of education and recreation expenses.

Interests

In talking about interests, she said that she had quite a good deal of free time, maybe four hours in the afternoon plus evenings, and that she liked to spend this free time reading, watching television, walking, knitting, and visiting.

Attitudes

Her solutions as to the various tasks with which she might have had difficulty, were quite resourceful and showed some interest in trying to find reasons and to better her solutions to her problems. She liked everything about homemaking, especially the feeling that her time was her own. She admitted that she disliked certain jobs such as cleaning and dishwashing.

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One of the happiest events since her marriage was the birth of her daughter, and in telling what she wanted for the child, she mentioned first, a happy marriage and second a college education.

Some tangibles that she wanted out of life were more money and travel and clothes. She thought about some others that were not listed on the check list, and added she wanted more family. Although they owned their home, she also said that eventually they wanted a larger home in a different location. They had originally chosen this one because it was on the bus line, but she thought that they would rather live elsewhere.

An intangible she checked was more time with her husband. The homemaker herself had time, but the couple didn't have time together. Then she added to the intangibles a wish for health and happiness.

The outside influences that she thought had a good effect on the adults and children were television (provided programs were carefully selected) and records. She had some feelings about the homemaker working away from home although at this point she didn't work. She said she thought if it was necessary, she believed that the mother could cope with problems of working away from home, but otherwise, she did not feel it was good. She felt that even a part-time job would be preferred to a full-time one. She felt that it could have some adverse effect on adults and children.

When asked where she would live if she could live anywhere she chose, she wanted to live in Syracuse, but in a suburban area, different from the present one.

She thought that young homemakers of today differed from their moethers in that the young homemakers had more appliances, more free time with the family, more chance to go, and that transportation was available now.

She seemed not to have a great deal of interest in visiting with young homemakers her own age, about mutual problems. She did mention that she enjoyed talking with them about cooking and child care, but cared little about discussing the other topics.

Information Source

Her sources of information on food and nutrition were books, especially cookbooks, and relatives and friends. For clothing and textiles, she said she would consult stores. She mentioned that the bank was their source of information on finance and that on management, she didn't go anywhere for information.

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For housing and decoration, she consulted friends and magazines. For child development and family relations, she consulted books and her pediatrician. For information on public affairs, she read the newspaper and magazines and also listened to news on radio and television. She did some gardening and her sources of information were her husband, magazines, and seed package information.

Among the magazines that she read regularly were the McCall's, Red Book, Look and Reader's Digest. The couple took two Syracuse newspapers. The homemaker mentioned that she liked to read fiction, rather than non-fiction.

Extension Service

In regard to what she knew about the Cooperative Extension Service, she checked she did not know what it was and added that they got opinions from people and did surveys like this interview.

As to the ways in which she would prefer to receive information, this homemaker checked mass media such as radio, television, newspapers, and magazines. She expressed interest in meetings and short-courses and a regular letter.

Summary

In summary, this young homemaker, I felt, was a potential. She had interests of various kinds which showed that perhaps there was something she could get through the Extension Service. She had time and she also had a means of transportation. If she were to attend a meeting she would have to arrange for taking care of the child.

Case Study No. 18 THE HOMEMAKER INTERESTED IN DRESS DESIGN

Family Composition

This 20-year old homemaker lived in East Syracuse, a village with a population of 2,500 to 10,000. In the family besides her husband, were two little girls - one of 19 months and the other, 3 1/2 months.

Housing

The husband was in the Army, so the young homemaker was living with her husband's aunt and uncle in their house. Their income was slightly over $3,000 from the Army allotment.

The husband's occupation was an Army Specialist 4, and the homemaker had recently come back from France, where she had been living with her husband in two rooms off the Post. I gathered that the youngest child had been born in France.

Education

The homemaker did not work outside of the home. She had a high school education.

In the slightly more than two years since their marriage, they had moved once to the community, and once within the community.

The couple did not own a car. There was a radio and television in the house. The homemaker had very few electrical appliances. She had a steam iron and electric fry pan and a vacuum cleaner. The husband's aunt and uncle, with whom the homemaker was living temporarily, had other necessary equipment.

Organizations

The only organization that she belonged to at the present time, was church, but in the fall, she hoped to join the Grange.

Needs

She expressed a wish for a washing machine, sewing machine, and a vacuum cleaner. As to the type of information for which she felt a need, she mentioned sewing, flower arranging, gardening and interior decorating. The one that she would go out of her way to learn was interior decoration.

As far as sewing was concerned, she did only mending and her reason was that she did not know how to sew and, did not have a sewing machine.

She helped with the cooking, although this was the husband's aunt's house and much of the planning was done jointly. Most of the meals were cooked at home for the usual reasons. The homemaker said she enjoyed cooking and thought that it saved money to cook meals at home and that it was best for the children.

She enjoyed selecting curtains and draperies when she had an opportunity and needed to buy them, but never made them.

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In regard to budgeting, she said they did budget for family expenditures, but it seemed that she only had certain records available. Among the records she had were food, housing, equipment and services. While the couple were in France, she said they kept an account of recreation expenses.

Interests

She said that she had some free time, about two or three hours a day, and that she was very much interested in art and fashion designing. She drew and designed dresses in her free time.

This young homemaker had good solutions for ways out of difficulty in doing certain tasks in that she said she usually would find out why things turned out the way they did. She said that she had not any great difficulty with the children eating vegetables, but if they didn't, she would try to encourage them with small servings and by different methods of preparation. She mentioned that her husband liked all vegetables. In regard to the buying questions, she mentioned that generally she would return unsatisfactory items whether they were food or clothing or equipment. She had two exceptions to this - one was hose. If they were unsatisfactory she said, unless they were expensive, she would disregard any dissatisfaction she had from them. A small equipment piece such as a can opener she would not return if it were unsatisfactory. This, I gathered, was due to lack of means of transportation.

Attitudes

In identifying her feelings or attitudes about certain phases of homemaking, she mentioned that what she liked about homemaking was keeping the home attractive and clean and following through on her own ideas. She disliked certain jobs such as cleaning and ironing and defrosting her refrigerator.

In thinking about what loomed large as one of the happiest events since her marriage, she mentioned three things. I was interested in the fact that she did not consider the arrival of the first child as the happiest event, or one of them, because her husband was away. But she did mention that the second baby's coming was a happy event and that another happy event was travelling in Europe with her husband, and a third, receiving her husband's letters.

In telling what she wanted for her children, she said that her most important want was that she hoped they could go to college if they wished, and then, she mentioned that she wanted them to have a home of their own. Uppermost in her mind was that the children by given the choice of going to college or not. She said, for example, if one of them had an interest in the art world, she wanted him to have the opportunity to go to an art school.

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Attitudes

The tangibles that she would like to get out of life, ones that she did not have now, she mentioned a new house, a car, and travel. She added that she thought that her husband, and she guessed she, too, would like to have a small farm. She also thought that she would like to have a boat so that they could go to the lake. She mentioned that she would like to learn how to drive. Knowing how to drive was one determining factor as to whether or not the homemaker herself would enjoy living on a small farm.

As to intangibles, she wanted time with her husband, and also wanted to keep health and happiness for herself, her husband, and the children.

As to the effect of outside influences on the adults and children in the family, this homemaker felt that television had only a moderate influence on the adults because she thought that they learned little. But, she did say that if programs were selected, she thought that television had a good effect on children. Records, she felt, had a good effect on all members of the family and she mentioned that she liked to do housework to music. Although she didn't work away from home, she had an opinion about working homemakers. She felt that the situation was very bad for the children and, as far as she was concerned, she would like to work while her husband was in the service, but that she thought it was undesirable. She added an outside influence that bothered somewhat, and that was neighborhood children coming unsupervised into the yard. Because of the presence of these children and their dog, she felt that she never would let her little girl go out alone.

In answer to the question of where she would like to live if she could live anywhere she chose, she said she would like to live in East Syracuse, but she also would like to live in their own home instead of her husband's aunt's home. I gathered that the parents of both husband and wife lived near. This was why she preferred to continue living in East Syracuse.

She felt that young homemakers of today differed from their mothers in that the house meant more to their mothers. She did feel that the modern homemaker was stricter with the children and that the children had more supervision than their mothers were able to give their children. She felt that young homemakers managed better than their mothers.

She liked very much to visit with homemakers her own age about such topics as cooking, home decoration, and management, and child care.

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Information Source

She obtained information about food and nutrition from relatives and was not interested in and didn't go anywhere for information on clothing and textiles. She obtained management and finance information from relatives and information on housing and decoration from books and magazines. For information on child development and family relations, she went to relatives and her doctor. For knowledge about public affairs, she listened to radio, television news, rather than doing much reading. Right now, she didn't do any gardening, but she said that if she had an opportunity to garden, she would consult friends and relatives and books on the subject.

Among magazines that she read regularly were the Good Housekeeping, other women's magazines, story magazines and style tips. She said she didn't read the newspapers and that she liked books of fiction and non-fiction.

Extension Service

She knew about Cooperative Extension Service because her husband's aunt was a member. She said that she thought it provided homemaking information in classes but she didn't seem to know about the other phases of the Extension Service.

The ways in which she would like to receive information, if she wanted to learn more about some phase of homemaking, were through small meetings, magazines, and a regular letter.

Summary

In summary, I believe that there is a potential here for this young homemaker in some phase of Cooperative Extension. She seemed to be interested in a variety of things and had time now to take part.

Case Study No. 19 THE HOMEMAKER WHO HAD PLANS FOR OWNING A HOME

Family Composition

This young homemaker lived in the city of Syracuse. She was 28-years old and had one 4-months old boy.

Housing

She lived in an upstairs apartment in a house. The apartment had four rooms.

The husband's salary bracket was over the median of $5,000 to $5,999. He was a Facility Specialist Engineer for General Electric. The homemaker did not work outside the home.

Education

She was a high school graduate and had one year of business school training, as well as 30 hours of college work.

The couple had been married 3 years and had made one move from another community, but no moves within the community.

They owned a car and it was sometimes available to the homemaker in the daytime and always in the evening. She said they had a radio, television, and quite a lot of household equipment. The ones she did not have were an electric frypan and sewing machine.

Organizations

This homemaker was quite active in several organizations. Most of them revolved about the church. She told of four organizations that they (the couple) belonged to. In two of them she had an office. She mentioned also a music group to which she belonged and in which she was an officer. She said that in many instances she had been made an officer in organizations because of her business training.

Needs

In identifying needs, she mentioned she wished, as far as equipment is concerned, that she had a sewing machine and electric frypan. She felt a need for information on stain removal and on sewing. She said that she would go out of her way to learn about them. In sewing, she was particularly interested in how to mend and make over clothes well and was interested in sewing for her child. She said that she had checked that she sewed some but she didn't now have a sewing machine. She said that she enjoyed sewing and felt that it saved money. She did not always prefer clothes that she made herself. She said she had time to sew.

This homemaker said that she cooked most of their meals at home for the usual reasons -- that it was a family pattern, saved money, she enjoyed cooking (liked to experiment), and she thought homecooked meals were best for small children.

She enjoyed selecting curtains and draperies for the home. She never made them.

(More)

She said that they budgeted for family expenditures and kept a few records. She did not have records on expenditures for food and recreations, but did have records for most of the other expenditures.

Interests

In regard to interests, she said that she had very little free time during the day, maybe an hour, and perhaps two hours in the evening. She liked to spend her free time knitting, walking, and watching television. Her organizations required much of her time, and she enjoyed them.

Her solutions to the difficulties in doing certain tasks were quite indicative of her feelings about things. She said that she had an inquiring mind and would try to find out why certain of these jobs had not come out the way they should. She said in regard to family eating habits, that her husband didn't like certain vegetables and, if she served them, and he didn't eat them, she wouldn't serve them again. She stated that if any of the products she purchased proved unsatisfactory, she would return them and ask for an adjustment. She excepted purchases of small items such as a head of lettuce.

Attitudes

She said she liked all of the facets of homemaking. She liked making a home and making herown decisions. The only thing that she disliked was cleaning.

Attitudes

One of the happiest events since their marriage was their honeymoon in Bermuda, and the second happy event was the birth of their son.

For her child she gave as a very important want, a college education followed by his entrance into his chosen profession.

As to what she would like out of life more than she is now getting, she mentioned under the tangibles, money, a new house, and clothes, and then added that she didn't want to bring up just one child, but would like to have a larger family.

As far as intangibles are concerned, she felt that while they had health and happiness, she would like to check these as being something she would like to keep. As she thought about the tangibles and intangibles, she said, "I checked money, but, I really mean I would just like to live within a comfortable income with enough money so that we don't have to question a certain expenditure." She mentioned that while she checked clothes as being a tangible want, she didn't think it was a very great want.

(More)

The influences of television and records, she thought were good on adults and children both. She was not employed at this time, although she was a trained accountant and mentioned that her specialized training was the reason that she held so many offices in her organizations. She thought that the homemaker should not work away from home. In fact, she felt that it had a bad influence on the family. She said that children needed their mother 24-hours a day. She was thinking at that time of little children.

In answer to the question of where she would like to live if she could live anywhere she chose, she said it would be in Syracuse, but in a home of their own. Also, she mentioned that her parents lived in Syracuse which was a reason for wanting to stay there.

She felt that young homemakers today have things easier than their mothers. She was thinking of equipment that today's homemakers have as well as prepared foods. She also felt that young homemakers lived a more hectic life than their mothers. She felt that their mothers stayed at home more.

She was not particularly interested in discussing problems of mutual interest with homemakers her own age. She said that she liked very much to discuss cooking, and child care with friends.

Information Sources

For information on food and nutrition, she said she used leaflets, pamphlets, and magazines, and for information on clothing and textiles, she mentioned using the television and magazines. She felt that her training made it unnecessary for her to seek information elsewhere on finances and management. She said that at present she didn't have much interest in housing and decoration. For information on child development and family relations, she consulted magazines, books and her doctor. For information on public affairs, she used the newspapers, magazines, radio and television. Since she lived in an apartment, she didn't do any gardening so had no need for information on that subject. The magazines that she read regularly were McCall's, Better Homes and Gardens, and Ladies Home Journal. The couple took two newspapers - The Syracuse Herald Journal and the Wall Street Journal. The homemaker said that she didn't have time to read books.

Extension Service

She said that she knew what the Cooperative Extension Service was. She considered it an information center and said that she had written for some articles. I gathered that these were bulletins and leaflets.

(More)

The ways this young homemaker preferred to learn about phases of homemaking were from radio, television, newspapers, magazines, leaflets, bulletins, and a regular letter. The possiblility of home visits from professionals once in a while appealed to her. I was interested in this because I had explained to her that it might be impossible from the standpoint of the time of the home agent. She still thought this would would be of interest to her.

On the rating scale, she rated herself fairly high.

Summary

The summary for this case study should include mention of the fact that while this young homemaker felt that in certain areas she was quite competent, she had an interest in improving her methods. If she ever had a home of her own, she might be interested in gardening and food preservation.

Case Study No. 20 THE HOMEMAKER WHO THOUGHT SHE WAS NOT RESOURCEFUL

Family Composition

This 22-year old homemaker lived in Syracuse and had one little girl, one year old.

Housing

The family lived in an apartment that was in a house with several other apartments. The number of rooms in the apartment was five. The couple's income was the median income of $5,000 to $5,999.

The husband's occupation was cable splicer for the Telephone Company. The homemaker did not work away from the home.

Education

The homemaker had a high school education plus a year of business school training.

The couple have been married two years and had made only two moves within the community.

They did not have a car, but had a radio, and television They owned much electrical equipment, but did not have a dryer, sewing machine, or a mixer.

Organizations

The only formal organization that this homemaker belonged to was church.

Needs

In looking at the needs, this homemaker expressed a desire for a dryer. The type of homemaking information that she felt a need for was interior decoration and she said she would go out of her way to learn about this.

The homemaker did not sew and her reason was that she didn't know how and, of course, didn't have a sewing machine.

She cooked most of her meals at home because it was the pattern and she felt it saved money. She enjoyed cooking and felt home cooked food was best for the little girl.

As to the selection of curtains and draperies, she enjoyed selecting them when she bought them and she never made them.

She stated that they kept a budget for family expenditures but kept few records. She had no record of money spent for clothing or recreation.

Interests

She said she had quite a lot of free time, she guessed about four hours a day, and that she liked to spend it visiting with friends and reading.

In finding a way out of difficulties when doing certain household tasks, she was quite casual and felt that she could find a solution or a way out without too much difficulty She said the little girl didn't eat vegetables, but that if her husband didn't like certain vegetables, she wouldn't prepare them just for herself. She said that she would disregard unsatisfactory purchases of lettuce, hose and small can opener, but if she had purchased an unsatisfactory package of meat or a dress or big piece of equipment, she would take it back and ask for adjustments.

(More)

Attitudes

The part of homemaking that she enjoyed was making her own decisions. She enjoyed choosing and arranging her furnishings. She mentioned that she disliked a time schedule and the necessity of having meals ready at a certain time. She added also that she disliked the monotony of homemaking.

One of the happiest events since the couple's marriage she considered to be the birth of the little girl. Her most important want for this child was a college education. She hoped her daughter would be able to travel, and then added that marriage was one of her wants for the child.

Tangibles that she wanted out of life were money, a house, a car, and travel. The intangibles she desired were to keep health and happiness.

Records and television, she felt, had a fair influence on the adults and a good influence on children. There seemed to be no problem in the amount and kind of play area for the little girl.

The homemaker did not work away from home, but had an opinion that this was bad for the family. She specifically mentioned that it caused friction, that the homemaker was too tired and that she herself would worry about the children and the family if she were working.

In answer to the question as to where she would live if she could live anyshere she chose, she mentioned liking to live near Syracuse, probably in Fayetteville, and definitely in a home of their own. She mentioned Fayetteville because it had nice yards and houses, and was close to the city.

She felt that the young homemakers of today had to use less energy because of their appliances. She felt that they were more casual about their homemaking, that their mothers were on a more definite schedule than the homemakers of today.

She enjoyed very much visiting with homemakers her own age about cooking, home decoration, and managing the home. She enjoyed some discussion of nutrition and cleaning, but did not like to talk about clothing, sewing or child care.

(More)

Information Sources

When she needed information on the subject of food and nutrition, she talked to relatives and friends. For clothing and textiles information, she used magazines. She mentioned the bank as a source of information on finance. She referred to friends for housing and decoration information and to her doctor for child development information. For public affairs, she read the newspapers and listened to the news on television. She did not do any gardening at this time. The magazines that she read regularly were McCall's, Saturday Evening Post, Life, and Parent's Magazine. She also had two Syracuse newspapers, and liked to read books of fiction rather than non-fiction.

Extension Service

In answer to the question about the Extension Service, she checked that she knew what it was and knew it as the Home Bureau.

If she wanted to learn more about some phase of homemaking, she would prefer small meetings, newspapers, magazines, and a regular letter.

She varied as to the place she put herself on the rating scale, but she did rate herself very low on resourcefulness.

Summary

In summary, I think that perhaps this young homemaker is a potential. While perhaps the need is there, I'm not sure that the homemaker would take enough interest to take part in Extension activities although she did express an interest in some subjects such as cooking and home furnishings.

APPENDIX A

Tables

Table 1

Place of Residence	No.	%
Farm	1	5
Village - population less than 2,500	1	5
Village or city - population 2,500 to 10,000	3	15
Near village in built-up area	1	5
Near city in built-up area	3	15
City - population 10,000 or more	11	55
Total	20	100

Table 2

Number of Children[a]	No.	%
No children	4[b]	20
One child	6[c]	30
Two children	4	20
Three children	4	20
Four children	2	10
Total	20	100

a. 20 homemakers have 34 children (average 1.7)
Pre-school - 25 - 74%
school age - 9 - 26%
b. Expecting first child - 1
c. Expecting second child - 1

Table 3

Housing[a]	No.	%
Own house	10	50
Rent house	3	15
Apartment	7	35
Total	20	100

a. Number of rooms range from 3 to 16. Average No. 5.85

Table 4

Age[a]	No.	%
20 - 24	7	35
25 - 29	10	50
30 - 34	3	15
Total	20	100

a. Average age - 26.

Table 5

Total Gross Income	No.	%
$2,500 - $3,499	1	5
$3,500 - $4,999	4	20
$5,000 - $5,999	4	20
Over $6,000	11	55
Total	20	100

Table 6

Occupation of Husband	No.
Accountant	1
Army specialist (4)	1
Cable splicer	1
Cyto Technician	1
Demonstrator and mechanic (roads and buildings)	1
Engineer	3
Factory worker	1
Farmer (dairy)	1
Office manager	2
Professional	2
Radio announcer	1
Radio guidance	1
Salesman	3
Water department worker	1
Total	20

Table 7

Gainful Employment of Homemakers	No.	%
Full time[a]	2	10
Part time[b]	3	15
Cared for other children at home	3	15
Did not work	12	60
Total	20	100

[a] Beautician, teacher

[b] Nurse, waitress, secretary

Table 8

Education of Homemaker	No.	%
8 years or less	0	0
12 years	6	30
13 years	3	15
14 years	1	5
15 years	1	5
16 years	5	25
Over 16 years	4	20
Total	20	100

Table 9

Years Married[a]	No.	%
Less than 2 years	8	40
3 to 5 years	6	30
6 to 8 years	4	20
10 to 12 years	2	10
Total	20	100

a. Mean number years married = 3.85
Median number years married = 3
Longest = 12 years Shortest = 7 months

Table 10

Number of Moves since Marriage from one Community to Another	No.	%
0	10	50
1	8	40
2	1	5
3	0	0
4	1	5
Total	20	100

Table 11

Average Number of Years Lived in Same House Since Marriage	No.	%
0.1 - 1.0 year	8	40
1.1 - 2.0 years	10	50
2.1 - 3.0 years	1	5
3.1 - 4.0 years	0	0
4.1 - 5.0 years	1	5
Total	20	100

Table 12

Family Car Ownership	No.	%
No car	3	15
1 car	14	70
2 cars	3	15
Total	20	100

Table 13

Availability of Car to Homemaker

Car Available	Daytime No.	Daytime %	Evening No.	Evening %
Never	5	25	4	20
Sometimes	5	25	4	20
Always	10	50	12	60
Total	20	100	20	100

Table 14

Ownership of Appliances (Percentages based on N = 20)	No.[a]	%
Steam iron	18	90
Dryer	10	50
Washer	16	80
Electric frypan	14	70
Electric sewing machine	10	50
Treadle sewing machine	1	5
Mixer	20	100
Vacuum cleaner	18	90
1 or more others mentioned	15	75
No others mentioned	5	25

[a] Could mention more than one.

Table 15

Membership and Official Positions in Organizations (Percentage based on N = 20)	No.	%
1 organization (church)	5	25
2 organizations	2	10
3 or 4 organizations	7	35
5, 6, 7 organizations	6	30
Total	20	100
Number of Offices		
Held 1 office	6	30
Held 2 or 3 offices	5	25
Total	11	55

Table 16

Equipment Wants (Percentages based on N = 20)	No.[a]	%
Dishwasher	4	20
Sewing Machine	6	30
Dryer	5	25
Washer	4	20
Freezer	2	10
Vacuum cleaner	2	10
Floor polisher	2	10
Rug shampooer	2	10
Electric frypan	2	10

Others mentioned once: mixer, mop, waffle iron, mangle, real kitchen

[a] Several mentioned more than one

Table 17

Homemaking Information Needs (Percentages based on N = 20)	No.[a]	%
Sewing	6	30
Gardening	3	15
Interior decoration	4	20
Food and cooking	3	15
Child care and teenage problems	3	15
Stain removal	2	10
None	4	20

Others mentioned once: crafts, canning, refinishing, slip covers, selection of furnishings, pest control, household hints, flower arranging

[a] One person could mention more than one

Table 18

Would Go Out of Way to Learn (Percentages based on N = 20)	No.	%
Interior decoration	4	20
Sewing	6	30
Child care	4	20
Refinishing	2	10
Stain removal	2	10

Others mentioned once: slip covers, canning, chair caning, freezing, finance help, gardening

Table 19

Do You Sew?	No.	%
Much	4	20
Some	6	30
Very little	2	10
Only mending	6	30
Not at all	2	10
Total	20	100

Table 20

Reasons for Sewing Much or Some (10 Homemakers)	No.	%
Enjoy sewing	10	100
Save money	9	90
Prefer clothes made at home	1	10
"Yes and no" to preference above	6	60
Have time	5	50
Other (home with children anyway)	1	10

Table 21

Reasons for Sewing Very Little, Mending or None (10 Homemakers)	No.	%
Don't know how	6	60
Don't have time	3	30
Don't have success	1	10
Not interested	1	10
No sewing machine	3	30
Other (no space to put away)	1	10

Table 22

Reasons for Cooking at Home (Percentages based on N = 20)	No.	%
Family pattern	20	100
Saves money	20	100
Enjoy	19	95
Best for children	15	75

Table 23

Buying Curtains	No.	%
Enjoy	17	85
Do not enjoy	3	15
Yes and no	0	0
Do not buy	0	0
Total	20	100

Table 24

Buying Draperies	No.	%
Enjoy	14	70
Do not enjoy	4	20
Yes and no	1	5
Do not buy	1	5
Total	20	100

Table 25

Making Curtains	No.	%
Enjoy	6	30
Do not enjoy	5	25
Do not make	9	45
Total	20	100

Table 26

Making Draperies	No.	%
Enjoy	3	15
Do not enjoy	6	30
Do not make	11	55
Total	20	100

Table 27

Budget	No.	%
Yes	19	95
No	1	5
Total	20	100

Table 28

Keep Records	No.	%
All	6	30
Some	14	70
Total	20	100

Table 29

Free Time	No.	%
None	2	10
1 - 2 hours	8	40
2 - 3 hours	2	10
3 - 4 hours	6	30
5 - 6 hours	2	10
Total	20	100

Table 30

How Homemakers Spend Free Time (Percentages based on N = 20)	No.[a]	%
Reading	15	75
Television	7	35
Walking	7	35
Visiting	7	35
Sewing or mending	7	35
Gardening	2	10
Organizations	2	10
Knitting	2	10

Others mentioned once: tennis, golf, swimming, playing piano, caning chairs, letter writing, cooking, shopping, fashion designing, going to lake, thinking, resting in yard

a. More than one answer given

Table 31

What the Homemaker Liked About Homemaking (Percentages based on N = 20)	No.	%
Child care	4	20
Family life	3	15
Own boss	8	40
Sense of Achievement	5	25
All of it	6	30
Cooking	2	10
Making a home for husband	2	10
Furnishing home	2	10
Clean home	2	10

Others mentioned once: growing flowers, washing, painting, entertaining, not going all the time

Table 32

What the Homemaker Disliked about Homemaking (Percentages based on N = 20)	No.	%
Cleaning	5	25
Monotony of routine	5	25
Ironing	7	35
Washing dishes	4	20
Defrosting refrigerator	2	10
Nothing	2	10

Others mentioned once: cleaning oven, cooking, care of wood floors, children sick, noise and interruption, lack of challenge of ideas, in house on summer day

Table 33

Solutions for Difficulty in Performing Task (Percentages based on N = 20)

A. Cake Fell

	No.[a]	%
Get new recipe	3	15
Find out why	11	55
Call it luck and try again	12	60
Never make a cake again	0	0
Other (use with sauce)	1	5

Solutions for Difficulty in Performing Task (Percentages based on N = 20)

B. Dress Did Not Fit

	No.[a]	%
Get rid of dress	0	0
Take dress apart and recut	11	55
Seek help from another person	14	70
Never make a dress again	0	0
Don't do this task	3	15

C. Serving Vegetable Family Would Not Eat (Percentages based on N = 20)

	Husband		Children	
	No.[a]	%	No.[a]	%
Serve small serving and encourage trying	3	15	15	75
Try to find methods of preparation they like	8	40	8	40
Serve only other foods	4	20	0	0
Never serve those vegetables again	7	35	0	0
Other: wife eats	1	5		
cook 2 vegetables, give choice			1	5

D. When Purchase Unsatisfactory (Percentages based on N = 20)

	Lettuce		Meat		Dress		Hose		Clothes Dryer		Can Opener	
	No.[a]	%	No.[a]	%	No.[a]	%	No.[a]	%	No.[a]	%	No.[a]	%
Disregard and do nothing	12	60	3	15	0	0	3	15	0	0	8	40
Take back and ask for an adjustment	7	35	17	85	19	95	17	85	20	100	12[b]	60
Never go to that store again	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	5	0	0
Other (complain)	1	5	0	0	2	10	0	0	0	0	0	0

a. Some gave more than one solution

b. 4 said they would not make special trip.

Table 34

One of the Happiest Events Since Marriage (Percentages based on N = 20)	No.[a]	%
Birth of child	13	65
Bought house	2	10
Trip	4	20
First Christmas	2	10
Miscellaneous includes: vacation, family reunion, experience in Germany	5	25

[a] Some mentioned more than one

Table 35

Wants for Children (Percentages based on N = 20)	No.[a]	%
Education	16	80
Health	6	30
Happy marriage	5	25
Parenthood	2	10
Home of own	2	10
What children themselves want	9	45
Good friends or companions	2	10
Economic security	2	10
Character traits	6	30
Travel	1	5
Rural experience	1	5
Did not apply (no children)	3	15

[a] Some mentioned more than one

Table 36

What More Do You Want Out of Life? (Percentages based on N = 20)

Tangibles	No.	%
Money	14	70
New house or apartment	10	50
Car	8	40
Travel	12	60
Clothes	10	50
More family	5	25
Education	2	10
Re-do house) Build Apt.)	2	10
Boat	2	10

Others mentioned once:
small farm, swimming pool,
a camp, colonial furniture,
move back near families,
learn to drive, stable taxes

Intangibles	No.	%
Time to do what you want	12	60
Health	18	90
Happiness	17	85
Other: World peace Security in Husband's job	2	10

Table 37

Opinion Regarding Outside Influences

A. **Television** (if selective)

	Adults No.	Adults %	Children No.	Children %
Good	14	70	12	60
Fair	6	30	6	30
Bad	0	0	0	0
No answer (DA)[a]	0	0	2	10
Total	20	100	20	100

a. Doesn't apply

B. **Homemaker Working Away from Home**

	Adults No.	Adults %	Children No.	Children %
Good	3	15	3	15
Good to Fair	1	5	0	0
Fair	6	30	4	20
Fair to Bad	1	5	0	0
Bad	8	40	10	50
Does not apply	1	5	3	15
Total	20	100	20	100

Table 38

Where Would Homemaker Prefer to Live

	No.	%
Here	6	30
In or around Syracuse, but different house	7	35
New England	1	5
Midwest (near families)	1	5
Warm climate (but satisfied)	1	5
West in U. S.	1	5
House - anywhere with husband	1	5
City - suburb	2	10
Total	20	100

Table 39

How Young Homemakers Differ from Mothers

(Percentages based on N = 20)

	No.[a]	%
More casual and relaxed	4	20
Equipment and mixes make work easier	13	65
More interest in outside activities	2	10
More free time - go out more	8	40
Ideas not too different	2	10
More pressure	2	10

a. Some mentioned more than one

Table 40

Like to Visit with Other Young Homemakers about Mutual Problems (Percentages based on N = 20)

	Much		Some		Not at All	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Cooking	12	60	7	35	1	5
Sewing	5	25	9	45	6	30
Cleaning	2	10	9	45	9	45
Nutrition	1	5	12	60	7	35
Home Decoration	11	55	9	45	0	0
Managing Home	6	30	13	65	1	5
Child Care	15	75	2	10	1	5
Teen-Age Problems	1	5	0	0	0	0

Table 41

Where Do You Go for Information on: (Percentages based on N = 20)

	F and N[b]		T and C[b]		M and F[b]		H and D[b]		CD and FR[b]		Pub. Aff.[b]		Gardening	
	No.[a]	%	No.[a]	%	No.[a]	%	No.[a]	%	No.[a]	%	No.[a]	%	No.[a]	%
Books	10	50	1	5	1	5	4	20	11	55	3	15	2	10
Magazines and Newspapers	6	30	5	25	3	15	9	45	2	10	18	90	4	20
Bulletins or Leaflets	3	15	1	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other people	8	40	7	35	5	25	6	30	5	25	0	0	6	30
Professional	2	10	1	5	4	20	2	10	9	45	2	10	1	5
Husband	0	0	0	0	9	45	2	10	0	0	1	5	1	5
TV and radio	0	0	1	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	75	0	0
Stores	0	0	3	15	0	0	3	15	0	0	0	0	1	5
Don't go	2	10	5	25	4	20	4	20	4	20	0	0	10	50

a. Mentioned more than once

b. F and N = Food and Nutrition; T and C = Textiles and Clothing; M and F = Management and Finance; H and D = Housing and Design; CD and FR = Child Development and Family Relations; Pub. Aff. = Public Affairs.

Table 42

A. Magazines Read (Percentages based on N = 20)	No.[a]	%
News (one or more)	8	40
Life or Look	7	35
Saturday Evening Post	4	20
Reader's Digest	7	35
Women's Magazines (one or more)	16	80
Better Homes and Gardens	5	25
Fashion	2	10
Red Book	6	30
National Geographic	4	20
Parents	2	10
Sign	2	10
Others mentioned	15	75

a. Mentioned more than one

B. Newspapers Read (Percentages based on N = 20)	No.	%
Syracuse Herald Journal	16	80
Syracuse Post Standard	7	35
New York Times	2	10
Others	6	30
Don't read	1	5

C. Books Read (Percentages based on N = 20)	No.	%
Fiction	18	90
Non-fiction	13	65
Don't read	2	10

Table 43

Know about Extension Service	No.	%
Yes	16	80
No	4	20
Total	20	100

Table 44

Definitions of Extension Service

Case No.	Definition
1.	Could give no definition.
2.	Has information and bulletins.
3.	Information on homemaking.
4.	Helps homemaker with better living.
5.	Has groups of people who take lessons - education in housekeeping. Sends information.
6.	Teach others homemaking.
7.	Gives information on homemaking.
8.	Don't know how to say it.
9.	Knew vaguely of 4-H.
10.	Surveys. Knew 4-H.
11.	Home Bureau.
12.	Same as Home Bureau.
13.	Information.
14.	Information service.
15.	Assists people in more efficient management. Own family always participated in a big way.
16.	Could give no definition.
17.	Surveys - opinions.
18.	Provides homemaker information in classes.
19.	Information center (has written for articles).
20.	Knew of Home Bureau

Table 45

Way Prefer to Receive Information (Percentages based on N = 20)

	No.[a]	%
Radio	5	25
Television	4	20
Meetings	11	55
Short-course	8	40
Newspaper	11	55
Magazine	14	70
Leaflets and bulletins	13	65
Regular letter	14	20
Telephone when needed	6	30
Home visits from professionals	2	10
Office visit to professionals	0	0

a. Mentioned more than one way.

Table 46

Homemakers' Rating of Themselves on Seven Characteristics

Rating[a]	Flexible		Practical		Cooperative		Resourceful		Creative		Good Companion		Good Homemaker	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1	3	15	4	20	5	25	3	15	2	10	8	40	4	20
1 - 2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	5	0	0	1	5
2	11	55	13	65	13	65	10	50	9	45	8	40	11	55
2 - 3	0	0	0	0	1	5	1	5	0	0	1	5	0	0
3	5	25	2	10	1	5	4	20	6	30	2	10	4	20
3 - 4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	5	0	0
4	1	5	1	5	0	0	0	0	2	10	0	0	0	0
5	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
NI (no information)							1	5						
Total	20	100	20	100	20	100	20	100	20	100	20	100	20	100
Av. No.	2.2		2		1.8		2.2		2.38		1.8		1.98	

a. A rating scale of 5 was provided, but some interviewees insisted on a more refined scale, hence the 1 - 2, 2 - 3, and 3 - 4 categories.

APPENDIX B

Questionnaire

Case Study of Young Homemaker
I · Face Sheet

1. Date of interview ______________________________

2. Place of residence:
   - a. ____ On a farm from which we get half or more of our income
   - b. ____ On a farm from which we get less than half of our income
   - c. ____ In the country but not on a farm
   - d. ____ In a Village that has a population of less than 2,500
   - e. ____ In a Village or City that has a population of 2,500 to 10,000
   - f. ____ Near the Village of ______________, in a built-up or suburban area
   - g. ____ Near the City of ________________, in a built-up or suburban area
   - h. ____ In a City that has a population of 10,000 or more

3. Family composition
   - a. Children living at home:
     - (1) None ____
     - (2) Males (list by giving ages of each) ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___
     - (3) Females (list by giving ages of each) ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___
   - b. Other relatives living with family (same house and board):
     - (1) None ____
     - (2) Males (list by giving ages of each) ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___
     - (3) Females (list by giving ages of each) ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___
   - c. Others (non-relatives) living with family (same house and board):
     - (1) None ____
     - (2) Males (list by giving ages of each) ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___
     - (3) Females (list by giving ages of each) ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___
   - d. Others living in same house (have apartment, rooms, or room in house) but have separate board:
     - (1) None ____
     - (2) Males (list by giving ages of each) ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___
     - (3) Females (list by giving ages of each) ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___

4. Housing

House ____________________	Number of rooms ____________
Apartment ________________	Number of rooms ____________
Other ____________________	

5. Age of homemaker ________

6. Income (Total net income):
   - a. ____ Less than $1,000
   - b. ____ $1,000-$1,499
   - c. ____ $1,500-$2,499
   - d. ____ $2,500-$3,499
   - e. ____ $3,500-$4,999
   - f. ____ $5,000-$5,999

7. Husband's occupation ______________________________

8. Employment of homemaker:
   a. Do you work for pay (wages or salary) as an employee of someone?
      (1) ____ Yes, work full time (35 hours a week or more)
      (2) ____ Yes, work part time (less than 35 hours a week)
      (3) ____ If yes, name of occupation (describe job as specifically as possible) ______________________________
      (4) ____ No, not at all.

9. Marital Status:
   a. ____ Married
   b. ____ Divorced or separated
   c. ____ Widowed

10. Years of schooling (circle highest grade completed):
    0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 over 16

11. Mobility:
    a. __________ Number of years married
    b. __________ Number of moves since marriage (community)
    c. __________ If have moved give date of last move (community)
    d. __________ Number of moves since marriage (apartment or house)
    e. __________ If have moved give date of last move (apartment or house in same community)

12. Car ownership:
    a. Own a car? Yes ____ No ____ More than one? Yes ____ No ____
    b. Is car available to you?

	Never	Sometimes	Always
Daytime			
Evenings			

13. Do you have a radio? Yes ____ No ____

14. Do you have a television? Yes ____ No ____

15. Do you have the following:

	Yes	No
Steam iron	____	____
Drier	____	____
Washer	____	____
Electric frypan	____	____
Sewing machine	____	____
Mixer	____	____
Vacumn cleaner	____	____
Other		
______________	____	____
______________	____	____

15. Membership in formal organizations:

	Check if Member (If not enter "0")	Number of Offices now holding
Church or Synagogue		
Sunday or Sabbath School		
Other church organizations (list)		
P.T.A.		
Home Bureau or Farm Bureau		
Grange		
League of Women Voters		
Sorority, Lodge or Fraternal (list)		
Auxiliary of Veterans (list)		
Woman's Club		
Garden Club		
Sports or hobby club (list)		
Other (list)		

Questions to Identify Needs

1. What equipment do you wish you had to make homemaking easier?

2. For what type of homemaking information or help do you feel a need?

3. What type of homemaking information would you go out of your way to learn?

4. Do you sew? Check one:

Much ______ Some ______ Very little ______
Do only mending ______ Don't sew ______

5. Check one or more reasons for answer to number 4:

If "Much" or "Some"
Enjoy sewing ______
Save money ______
Prefer clothes made at home to purchased ______
Have time to sew ______
Other reason:
____

If "Very little", "Mending only" or "Don't sew"
Do not know how ______
Do not have time ______
Do not have success ______
Not interested ______
Other reason:
____

6. Do you cook most of your meals at home? Yes ______ No ______

7. Check one or more reasons for your answer to number 6:

If "yes"
It is a family pattern ______
Saves money ______
Enjoy cooking ______
Best for small children ______
Other reason:
____

If "no"
Do not have time ______
Do not know how ______
Do not like to cook ______
Do not have success ______
Do not have equipment ______
Other reason:
____

8. If you buy curtains and draperies
Do you enjoy selecting curtains? Yes _____ No _____ Do not buy _____
Do you enjoy selecting draperies? Yes _____ No _____ Do not buy _____

9. If you make curtains and draperies
Do you enjoy making curtains? Yes _____ No _____ Do not make _____
Do you enjoy making draperies? Yes _____ No _____ Do not make _____

10. Do you budget for family expenditures? Yes _____ No _____

Interviewers Notes

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

9.

10.

11. Do you keep records for family expenditures? All ____ None ____

Only these:
Food ____
Clothing ____
Housing ____
Health ____
Equipment ____
Services ____
Education ____
Recreation ____

Questions to Identify Interests

12. Do you have any free time? Yes ____ No ____
On the average, how much time a day? ______ hours

13. How would you like to spend free time? ______________________________
____

14. If you did one of the following tasks and had difficulty, which "way out" would you choose?

See following page

Questions to Identify Attitudes

15. What do you like about homemaking?

16. What do you dislike about homemaking?

17. What do you think of as one of the happiest events since your marriage?

18. In telling what you want for your children:
What are your most important wants? (Consider each child in family.)

What are other wants?

Do not have children ____

19. What more do you want out of life than you are now getting? Check one or more.

Tangibles
Money ____
New house or apartment ____
Car ____
Travel ____
Clothes ____
Other ____
No wants ____

Intangibles
Time to do what you want ____
Health ____
Happiness ____
Other ____
No wants ____

Interviewers Notes

11.

12.

13.

14. (next page)

15.

16.

17.

18.

19.

14. If you did one of the following tasks and had difficulty, which "way out" would you choose?

Task	Difficulty	Solution I	Solution II	Solution III	Solution IV	Other Solution	Do not do This Task
Made a cake	Cake fell	Get a new recipe ___	Find out why ___	Call it "luck" and try again ___	Never make a cake again ___		___
Made a dress	Dress did not fit	Get rid of dress ___	Take dress apart and re-cut ___	Seek help from another person ___	Never make a dress again___		___
Served certain vegetables to these members of family:	Husband and children did not eat the vegetables	Serve small servings and encourage trying the vegetable	Try to find methods of preparation they like	Serve only other foods	Never serve those vegetables again		___
Husband	___	___	___	___	___		___
Children	___	___	___	___	___		___
Purchased product from following items:	Proved to be unsatisfactory	Disregard and do nothing	Take it back and ask for adjustment	Never go to that store again			
Head of lettuce		___	___	___	___		___
Meat		___	___	___	___		___
Dress		___	___	___	___		___
Hose		___	___	___	___		___
Clothes drier		___	___	___	___		___
Can opener		___	___	___	___		___

Cake

Dress

Vegetables - Husband and Children

Purchase items

Head of lettuce:

Meat:

Dress:

Hose:

Clothes drier:

Can opener:

20. What kind of influence do you think the following have on the adults and on the children in your family? Check appropriate column.

	Adults				Children			
	Good	Fair	Bad	Don't Know	Good	Fair	Bad	Don't know
a. Television								
b. Records								
c. Kind of Play Area								
Inside: unsafe								
small								
lack of								
Outside: unsafe								
small								
lack of								
far away								
d. Homemaker working away from home								
e. Matters related to school								
f. Other								

21. If you could live anywhere you choose where would it be? ____________________

22. How do you think young homemakers of today differ from their mothers?

____

____

____

23. How well do you like to visit with homemakers your own age about mutual problems such as:

	Very much	Some	Do not like to
Cooking	____	____	____
Sewing	____	____	____
Cleaning	____	____	____
Nutrition	____	____	____
Home decoration	____	____	____
Managing the home	____	____	____
These problems if have children:			
Child care	____	____	____
Teen age problems	____	____	____

Interviewers Notes

20.

a.

b.

c.

d.

e.

f.

21.

22.

23.

24. Where do you go for information on:

		Don't go
Food and Nutrition	____________________ ____________________	________
Clothing and Textiles	____________________ ____________________	________
Management and Finance	____________________ ____________________	________
Housing and Decoration	____________________ ____________________	________
Child Development and Family Relations	____________________ ____________________	________
Public Affairs	____________________ ____________________	________
Gardening	____________________ ____________________	________

25. List names of magazines, newspapers and types of books you read:

Magazines: Do not read magazines: ________

____

____

____

Newspapers: Do not read newspapers ________

____

____

____

Type of Books: Do not read books ________

________ Fiction

________ Non-Fiction

26. Do you know what the Cooperative Extension Service is? Yes ____ No ____
If "yes", what does it do? ______________________________

____

24. Where do you go for information on:

		Don't go
Food and Nutrition	____________________ ____________________	______
Clothing and Textiles	____________________ ____________________	______
Management and Finance	____________________ ____________________	______
Housing and Decoration	____________________ ____________________	______
Child Development and Family Relations	____________________ ____________________	______
Public Affairs	____________________ ____________________	______
Gardening	____________________ ____________________	______

25. List names of magazines, newspapers and types of books you read:

Magazines: Do not read magazines: ______

____
____
____

Newspapers: Do not read newspapers ______

____
____
____

Type of Books: Do not read books ______

______ Fiction
______ Non-Fiction

26. Do you know what the Cooperative Extension Service is? Yes ____ No ____
If "yes", what does it do? ______________________________
____

Interviewers Notes

24.

25.

26.

27. If you wanted to learn more about some phase of homemaking, which way would you prefer to receive information? Check as many as you want.

____ Radio
____ Television
____ Meetings (small organized meetings)
____ Short course
____ Newspaper
____ Magazine
____ Leaflets and bulletins
____ Regular letter
____ Telephone when needed
____ Home visits from professionals
____ Office visit to professionals
____ Other (specify) ____________________
____

28. Using the rating scale below, circle the number that best describes where you would rate yourself.

	High				Low
Flexible	1	2	3	4	5
Practical	1	2	3	4	5
Cooperative	1	2	3	4	5
Resourceful	1	2	3	4	5
Creative	1	2	3	4	5
Good Companion	1	2	3	4	5
Good Homemaker	1	2	3	4	5

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Interviewers Notes

27.

28.

Additional notes: